

1910

India

MYSORE
AND
KERALA

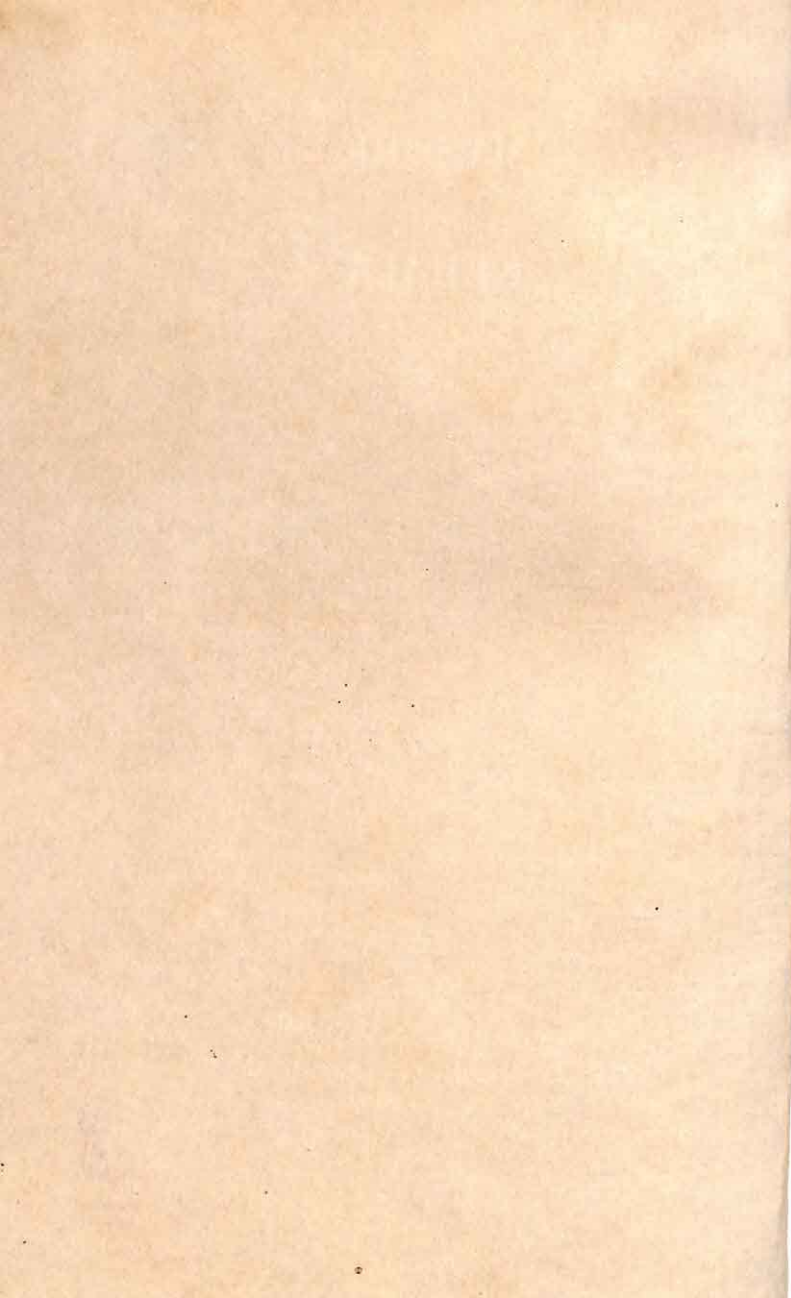




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MYSORE AND KERALA



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MYSORE



Jog Falls, Mysore

INTRODUCTION

Perhaps, no two neighbouring areas in India provide so fascinating a picture in contrasts and likenesses as the States of Mysore and Kerala which sprawl along the western coast of southern India.

Kerala clings to the coast all along from south to north, and is isolated from the greater part of the peninsula by the hill ranges of the Western Ghats. Its history and culture therefore bear a strong impress of individuality.

Being a coastal region, Kerala has been exposed, for centuries, to foreign influences. Ships from many countries touched its ports to buy spices, ivory and sandalwood and even peacocks. The sea-faring nations of the ancient world have had more to do with the people of Kerala than with any others in South India. The earliest among the trading visitors were the Phoenicians. The port of Ophir, which the ships visited about 1000 B. C., is believed to have been the village of Puvur, south of Trivandrum.

There was an extensive trade between Greece and Rome and the ports of western India. The Chinese carried on a flourishing trade with Quilon in the early centuries of the Christian era. The fishing nets introduced by the ancient Chinese are still used widely in several coastal villages of Kerala. Much later came the Danes, followed by the Portuguese and the Dutch; and, last of all, the English East India Company. The Danes are known to have had a factory at Colachel.

Mysore is chiefly a tableland lying between the western and eastern mountain ranges which converge on the lovely Nilgiri hills to the south. This physical feature, more than any other, accounts for the varying landscape of Mysore and the somewhat insular character of its people.

In its scenic character, Kerala is far more homogeneous than Mysore. It is a rolling mass of verdure comprising coconut, coffee and banana plantations, rice-fields and thick, tropical forests. Its climate is definitely tropical and the temperature ranges between 21.1° to 32.2°C (70° to 90°F). Mysore's western coast shares this characteristic of Kerala, and this enhances Mysore's scenic variety.

Historically and culturally, both Mysore and Kerala have been exposed to dynamic influences from the neighbouring Tamilnad region (Madras State). This influence can be discerned in their traditions of music and dance and temple architecture, as well as in their costumes and customs.

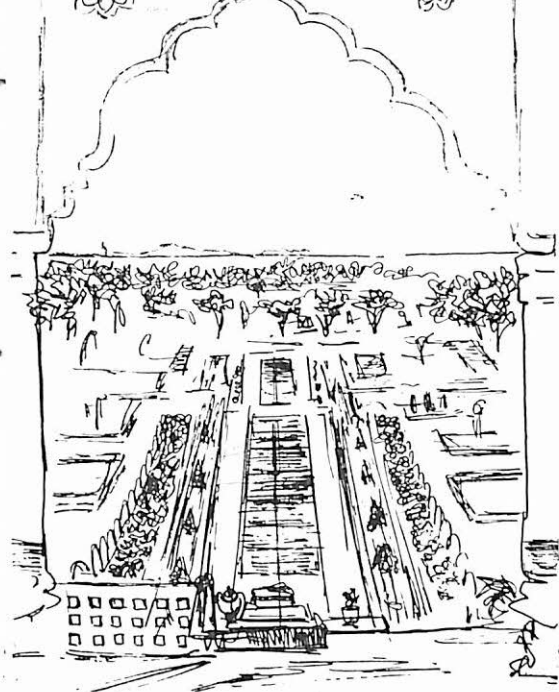


MYSORE

Broadly speaking, Mysore State is made up of a series of uplands with an average height of over 610 m. (2,000 ft.) above sea level. In summer, it enjoys a languorous warmth and a bracing cool weather in winter. Relieving the plains of their prosaic evenness are the hills which rise to moderate heights. The contribution of at least some of these hills to the history of the land has been very significant. In days gone by, people built fortresses on their tops and these became scenes of bitter strife which are still remembered through many a tale and song.

Mysore's mountain ranges and forests in the west and south-west still retain their primaeval character. Mysore's teak and ebony, blackwood and cedar are famous for their beauty and strength, while bamboo and sandalwood feed two of the biggest industries of this State. Handsome elephants inhabit these jungles, besides the tiger, the leopard and the panther, the wild boar, the bear and the spotted deer, to mention only a few animals. On the slopes of the Western Ghats are to be found extensive plantations of coffee, cardamom and pepper. Mysore is the original home of coffee in India.

Perhaps the most alluring aspect of Mysore's forests is in its waterfalls, reputed to be among the loveliest in the world. Besides being idyllic tourist haunts, they are also important sources of electricity on which the industrial prosperity of the State mainly rests.



Although the river valley projects of Mysore serve a considerable part of its fertile territory, rainfall is still the chief source of irrigation. Almost every village has a tank of its own, and sometimes two, built in ancient days. These tanks collect and store up water during the monsoon for the peasants and their fields.

A vast majority of Mysore's people is engaged in agriculture. Rapidly developing industries, however, are creating new opportunities for the people. An enlightened administration had been harnessing the hydro-electric resources of the State for putting up factories even before India became free in 1947. Since then the pace of industrialisation has quickened greatly, and Mysore now possesses India's first aircraft, machine-tool and telephone factories, besides many others.

Mysore's great river-system consists chiefly of the Kaveri in the south, the Tungabhadra in the north, and the two Pennars and Palars in the east. Most of these rivers find their outlet in the Bay of Bengal.



Being mountain-locked and far removed from approaches to the sea, the physiography of Mysore has encouraged in its people a somewhat insular outlook.

Politically, too, Mysore State has been less open to alien influences. Thus the predominantly Hindu population of the region has been able to retain its character and cherish its ancient traditions.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The influence of history on the character of its people can be traced to a few outstanding events which, though separated from one another by long intervals of time, thread themselves together into a meaningful sequence.

Chandragupta Maurya (contemporary of Alexander the Great) who ruled the kingdom of Magadha in the north is believed to have retired to the solitude of the Sravana Belgola hills in Mysore in his old age. His famous grandson, Asoka, whose empire included the whole of North India and almost the whole of the Deccan, ruled over parts of Mysore. Three minor rock edicts of Asoka are found in the State.

Sankaracharya, the famous philosopher-saint of India (8th century), sojourned in Mysore territory and set up a diocese at Sringeri which is a well-known centre of religious learning even today. Ramanujacharya, another great social reformer and philosopher of the 11th century, sought refuge in Mysore and stayed here for over 12 years. A century later, Basava denounced caste and preached the 'Oneness of God and the brotherhood of Man'. Madhavacharya, who preached the duality of God and soul two centuries later, was also born in this region. These and many other great men have left their impress on the character of the people.

Mysore cradled a number of great dynasties—the Kadam-bas, the Chalukyas, the Gangas, the Rashtrakutas, the Hoysalas and the kings of Vijayanagar—which dominated peninsular India





centuries ago. Art and architecture reached a high watermark of perfection during the rule of the Hoysalas (12th to 14th century), and the exquisitely sculptured shrines of Halebid, Belur and Somnathpur are reminiscent of the great builders of those bygone days.

The Vijayanagar empire (1335-1564) extended over a large part of the Deccan, virtually the whole of South India. This powerful kingdom broke up into a number of independent principalities after the battle of Talikota in 1564. For nearly two centuries, until the rise of Hyder Ali to power, there was no single authority over the territory. A humble captain in the service of the Mysore Raja, Hyder Ali was a man of great daring, an able soldier and organiser. He brought the whole of Mysore

under his control and carried his arms as far as Madras which was an English stronghold. His son, Tipu, extended Mysore's influence to Kerala and became a terror to every ruling prince in South India. He became deeply entangled in the bitter rivalry that ensued between the French and the English during the Napoleonic period and fought a series of wars with the English East India Company. In the last of these (1799), Tipu was defeated and killed, and the throne of Mysore, with much of its territory and independence gone, was restored to the ancient ruling family.

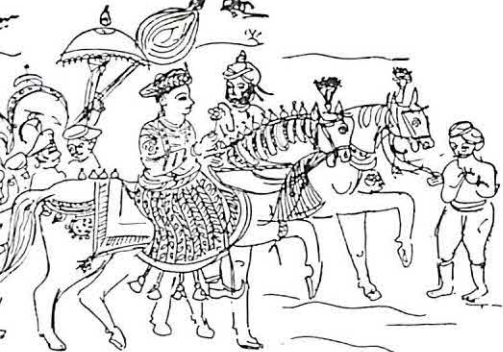
The Chalukyas blended the northern and southern Indian arts. The tourist can see the glory of the Chalukyan architecture in the 4 cave temples between two majestic hills as well as in a group of temples at Pattadakal near Badami. The idol of Umamaheswara at Belagami in Shimoga district is considered the finest specimen of Chalukyan art.

A few years after India attained independence, the political map of the country was redrawn in 1956, when Mysore became one of the democratically-governed States of the Indian Union.

HANDICRAFTS

Mysore offers a rich variety of souvenirs to the tourist. Home of many industries, Mysore specialises in sandalwood and ivory carving and decorative articles of rosewood, teak and lacquerware. Fragrant sandalwood gives the wood-carver of Mysore an ideal medium for the delicate display of his inherited skill. Cigarette cases, combs, paper cutters, table lamps,





caskets, fans and a variety of miniatures—animals, images of the Buddha and Hindu gods and goddesses—are among the exquisitely carved articles of sandalwood and ivory.

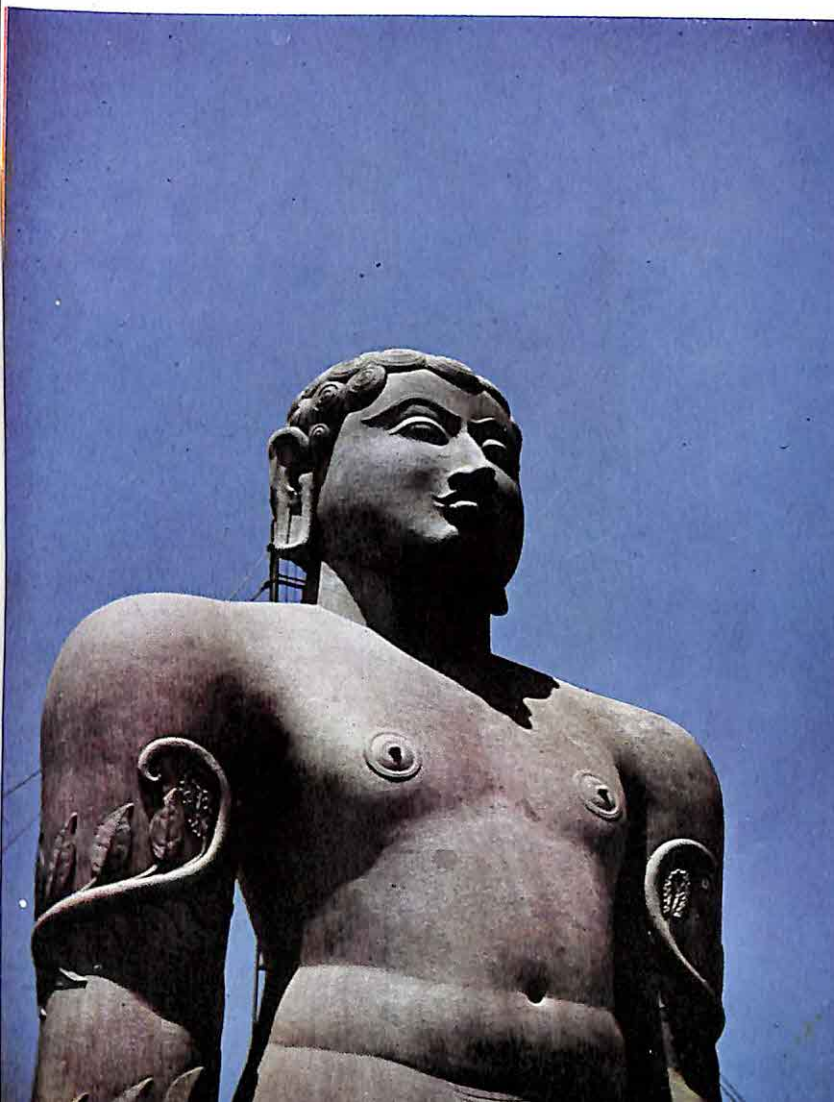
The Chamarajendra Technical Institute in Mysore produces excellent metal images. Rosewood plaques and trays inlaid with ivory make excellent wall decorations, and these, too, are available here.

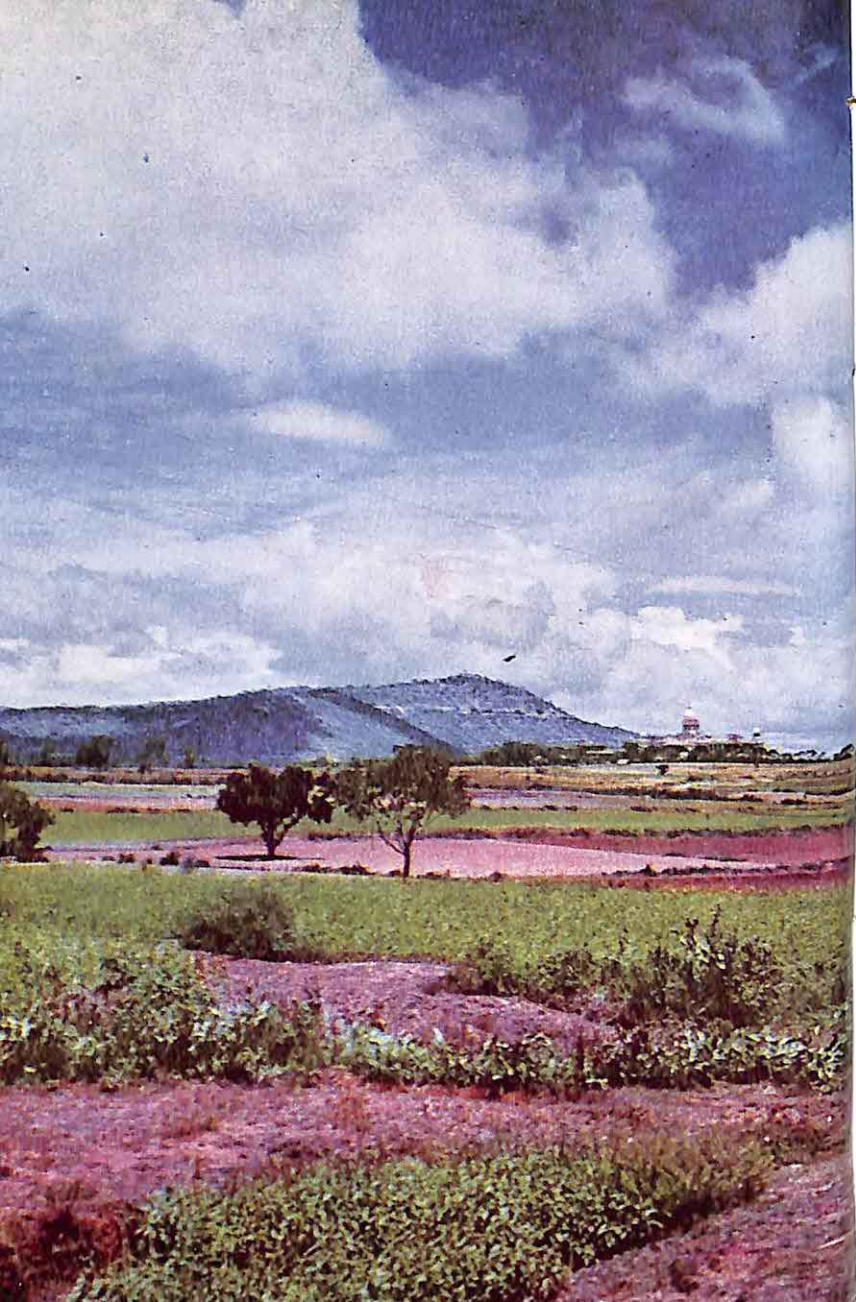
Mysore crepes, georgettes and gorgeous gauzelike tissue, produced in colours that are soothing, brilliant or gay, have a reputation for their texture and loveliness.

Bidar in north Mysore is famous for a unique type of metal-ware called 'Bidri'. It has silver inlay on a black metallic base which is an alloy of zinc and other non-ferrous metals. The



The colossal monolithic statue of Gomateswara at Sravana Belgola







wide range of articles produced in the Bidri style includes trays, flower vases, lamp stands, paper knives, ash-trays and the like.

The perfume-lover may like to try Mysore's *agarbathi* which is a thin stick coated with perfumed paste. When ignited it burns steadily and slowly, filling the room with a delicate fragrance.

TOURIST SEASON

The season from October to April is the best time to enjoy the varied attractions of Mysore. Tourists usually time their visit to Mysore city with the celebration of the Dussehra festival. Because of its network of road and rail services, well-appointed hotels and tourist bungalows, travelling in the State is comfortable and pleasant. The administration is alive to the needs of foreign tourists and the people are friendly and hospitable.



PLACES OF INTEREST

BANGALORE

Delightful weather greets the visitor who alights in Bangalore. This capital of Mysore State is one of the prettiest cities in India.

It is easy to perceive that this cosmopolitan city of over a million people has a marked personality of its own. It makes no claims to mediaeval splendour and has few historical monuments, but it has large parks and gardens, tree-lined avenues, lovely public buildings and many industrial undertakings. The visitor will find that he is in the midst of a people who are accustomed to a life of industry and orderly comfort.

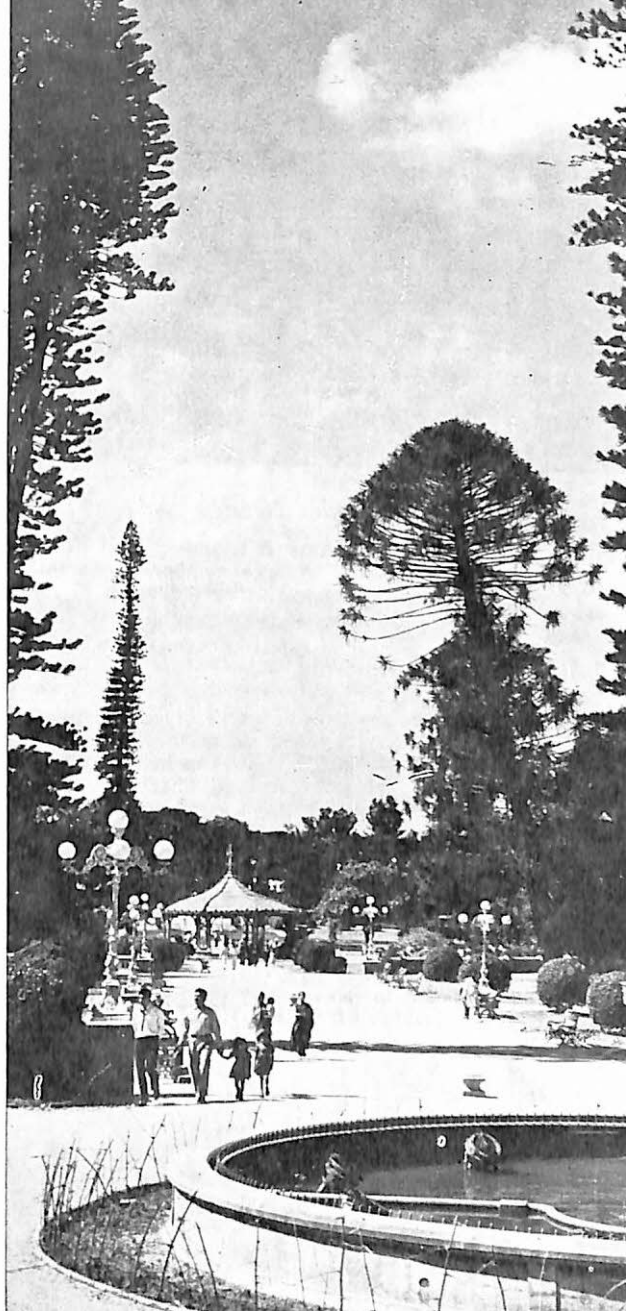
The name Bangalore is derived from an indigenous word which means the 'town of boiled beans'. Its recorded history can be traced back to 1537 A.D., when a valorous chieftain, Kempe Gowda, built a mud fort here, and set the limit to its expansion by erecting watch-towers at the four cardinal points of the town. In recent years, however, Bangalore has fast outgrown the limits set by its founder.

The mud fort of Kempe Gowda was rebuilt in stone, two centuries later, by Hyder Ali and improved upon by his son, Tipu Sultan. It is a fine specimen of the military architecture of the 18th century.

Bangalore is a planned, modern city. Suburbs like Malleswaram and Basavangudi are well laid out and contain modern residential buildings. Among the older structures, which contribute so much to the personality of Bangalore, are the Old Secretariat, a huge pile of imposing edifices of brick and mortar in the Ionic style; the Central College with its Gothic spires and turrets; and the Victoria and Ophthalmic hospitals, both sturdy and utilitarian. To this array of Victorian buildings has been added, in recent years, the imposing Vidhan Soudha, a magnificent post-Independence structure which incorporates traditional Hindu elements of architecture. This building houses the Secretariat of the Mysore Government and the State's legislature.

Beyond the winding drives and avenues, in the neighbourhood of the race-course, the visitor will see buildings of another type—grand, manorial and remote—set in delightful surroundings of parks and gardens. The palace of the Maharaja, resembling an English castle, is one of the grandest buildings in the city and its garden is one of the most exquisite in the State.

The Lal Bagh





A street scene in Bangalore. The city is famed for its elegance and cleanliness

Bangalore has some outstanding technical and vocational training institutions. A large number of the skilled employees, who man the textile and other industries in the State, receive training in these institutions.

In a quiet and secluded corner of the city, beyond Malleswaram, is the renowned Indian Institute of Science which has a world-wide reputation for research.

Bangalore has some of India's biggest industrial undertakings belonging both to the State and private sectors. Among these are the Hindustan Aircraft Factory, the Indian Telephone Industries, the Machine Tools Factory and Bharat Electronics. There are many woollen, silk and cotton textile mills, besides those manufacturing porcelainware, soap, medicinal and pharmaceutical products, cigarettes and numerous other commodities.

A most restful spot in Bangalore is the Lal Bagh, a botanical and pleasure garden. Originally laid out by Hyder Ali and Tipu Sultan, the Lal Bagh is a gift of the 18th century to modern Bangalore. It has been developed with sedulous care for nearly a hundred years and now ranks among the finest of its kind in Asia. It contains an amazing variety of herbs, plants and trees of tropical and sub-tropical regions.

ACCOMMODATION

Hotels: West End Hotel; Central Hotel; Lobo's Hotel; Shilton Hotel; Madras Woodlands; Hotel Broadway; Tourist Hotel.

Rest House: State Guest House under the charge of the Manager. Government Guest House, the Residency, Bangalore.



The Vidhan Soudha





*A view of the
Nandi Hills*

AROUND BANGALORE

NANDI HILLS

Nandi, at a height of 1,478 m. or 4,850 ft., is an attractive resort 60 km. (37 miles) by road from Bangalore. Bordered by fruit trees, its shaded paths are an invitation to enjoyable walks, one of them leading to the Amrita Sarovar (the Lake of Nectar). Its perennial springs are popular for their health-giving properties.

A glimpse of the old-time architecture is afforded by two Siva temples—one at the foot and the other at the top of the hill.

KOLAR GOLD MINES

Kolar is as rich in history as it is in gold. The gold mines here are the deepest mining pits in the world, reaching down to a depth of about 3 km. (two miles) below the surface of the earth.

ACCOMMODATION

Rest House: Mines Visitors' Bungalow. For reservation and permission to see the Gold Mines, write to the Secretary, Kolar Gold Mining Undertakings (Central Administration), Oorgaum P.O. (Phone 77).

SIVAGANGA

Fifty-five kilometres (34 miles) from Bangalore, and less high than Nandi, is Sivaganga, a lovely spot with its famous Gangadhareswara and Honna Devi temples among several others.

CHAMARAJASAGAR

Chamarajasagar or Tippagondanhalli, 35 km. (22 miles) from Bangalore, is famous for its dam across the river Arkavathi, the source of drinking water for the city of Bangalore. It is an ideal picnic-spot.

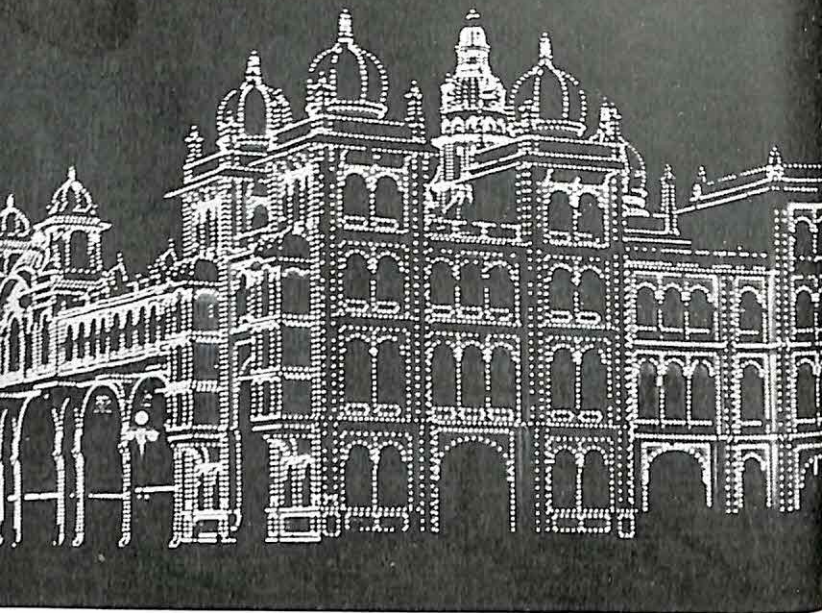
ACCOMMODATION

Rest House: Furnished Inspection Bungalow. For reservation write to the Executive Engineer, Water Supply Division, Bangalore.

MYSORE CITY

A fine motor-road takes the visitor from Bangalore to Mysore City, a distance of 137 km. (85 miles). It passes through many important towns, some of which are known for their industrial importance and others for their historical interest.

Much smaller than Bangalore, and much less important industrially and commercially, Mysore has its own individuality. It has a quiet charm so characteristic of a university-town. For



The Mysore Palace illuminated during the Dussehra festival

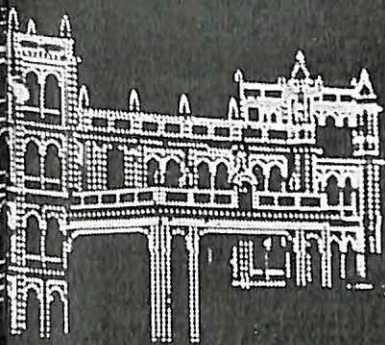
long the seat of an ancient ruling family, it has a good deal of colour and glamour.

Mysore has so much to offer to the visitor that he may well stay here for a week without having to spend an idle hour or a tedious day. Among its fine buildings, the palace of the Maharaja is the most outstanding. It is an entirely modern structure combining the Hindu and Saracenic styles of architecture.

The Lokaranjan Mahal, the Lalitha Mahal, the Cheluvamba Mansion (housing the Central Food Technological Research Institute), the Municipal offices, the Krishnarajendra Hospital, the Exhibition Buildings, the railway and public offices and the Cheluvamba Maternity Home are some of the other magnificent buildings.

An important beauty-spot and the most conspicuous landmark in Mysore City is the Chamundi Hill, 14 km. (nine miles) by road. Atop the hill is an elegant park from where a broad, winding drive runs to a length of about 10 km. (six miles) to reach the imposing temple of Chamundi. The huge reclining bull, carved out of an enormous monolith lies half-way up the hill and is worth a visit.

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The Zoological park of Mysore, reputed to be one of the best in India, has a good selection of birds, beasts and reptiles.

The Jagan Mohan Palace contains an excellent Art Gallery and a small museum.

The Chamarajendra Technical Institute is the oldest institution of its kind in the State where the best traditions of classical art of this region are preserved and fostered. It has made a name for ivory and sandalwood carvings and cast metal statuettes. The Government Silk Weaving Factory and the Sandalwood Oil Factory, two industrial concerns run by the State, are renowned for the excellence of their products. There are, besides, many cottage industries specialising in the manufacture of perfumes and incense.

DUSSEHRA

If Mysore figures in the tourist's itinerary, he will do well to time his visit for Dussehra, the most spectacular festival of the region. Commencing some time about the end of September or the beginning of October (the exact date can always be ascertained from a travel agent or a Government of India Tourist Office), the festival lasts for ten days. In Mysore it is known as



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Navaratri (nine nights). Dussehra is universally observed by Hindus in all the regions of India, but the grandeur and pageantry of the colourful celebrations in Mysore have a special appeal for the tourist. In the modern setting of Mysore, this festival conjures up an image of the splendour of the past when the ruling prince, the centre of everything, received the homage of his chieftains.

For these ten days, the quiet and charming city of parks and gardens becomes a blaze of colour and light. People from all parts of the State flock to the city's diverse attractions, filling the streets, bazaars and pavements. The focal point of attraction is the palace and its environs. The age-old ceremonies in the palace, followed to this day, have been sedulously preserved by a long line of rulers. The Maharaja's palace (now the Governor's official residence), its main gateways, and the many temple towers in the fort are brilliantly lit up by myriads of electric lamps, giving the city a fairy-land look.

Every little house in the city—in fact all over the State—puts on a gay appearance. Women and children don their best clothes and offer worship to their deities. All the domestic collections of toys and curios are neatly exhibited on miniature galleries in each house, and neighbours and relatives are invited to see them and receive gifts of sweets.

The climax of this festivity is reached on the tenth day—Vijaya Dasami—when the Maharaja (now the Governor of Madras) goes out in a procession from the palace arrayed in regal splendour. Seated in a howdah mounted on an exquisitely caparisoned elephant, the Maharaja is preceded by the cavalry, infantry, camel corps and elephants. The entire route is brilliantly lit up and special archways are erected at intervals.

ACCOMMODATION

Rest House: Government Guest House Quarters. For reservation write to the Superintendent of Guest Houses, Government House, Mysore.

AROUND MYSORE CITY

THE BRINDAVAN GARDEN—KRISHNARAJA SAGAR

One of the most enchanting spots in India, especially at week-ends when the fountains are lit, is the Brindavan Garden which adorns the site of the Krishnaraja Sagar Dam. Only 19 km. (12 miles) from Mysore, it is easily accessible both by road and rail.

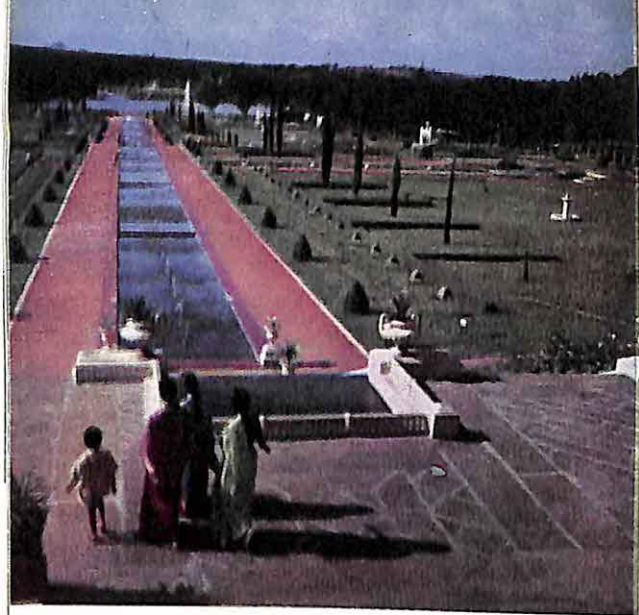
The Krishnaraja Sagar Dam, across the Kaveri river, is 40 m. (130 ft.) high and 3 km. (1¾ miles) long. Built in 1923, it is one of the biggest in South India. The large reservoir has an area of 50 square miles.



The Mysore Palace

The Jayamarthanda Gate of the Mysore Palace





*A panoramic view
of the picturesque
Brindavan Gardens*

Colourfully lit fountains in the Brindavan Gardens, Mysore



As the visitor passes through the impressive gateway along the drive atop the dam, the garden reveals itself in a series of terraces. From the pavilion there, one has an enchanting view of the garden below. Leaping fountains of varied shapes, brilliantly lit pools of water, and flowers of different hues look most picturesque.

Hotel Krishnaraja Sagar has a spacious modern building, built, furnished and equipped to provide comfort to visitors. Situated on a ridge overlooking the Brindavan Garden, it affords a panoramic view of the countryside. Swimming and boating are available and the visitor with a gun will find plenty of winged game on the islets in the river at a short distance from the hotel. Those interested in fishing need not go far as the surroundings of the hotel offer good facilities. While silver-fish are available all the year round, the *mahseer* may be found occasionally. Some visitors are so impressed by the loveliness of the garden that they stay on in the hotel, making it a base for excursions in the surrounding area.

BANDIPUR WILD LIFE SANCTUARY

Mysore, like Kerala, is equally well known for its forests inhabited by large herds of elephants.

The most photogenic spot for wild life in Mysore is the Bandipur Sanctuary, 77 km. (48 miles) from Mysore on the road to Ootacamund. Formerly the game preserve of Mysore's Maharajas, this sanctuary now shelters herds of wild elephants, the Indian 'bison', the spotted deer, tiger, sloth-bear and leopard to mention only a few. A fine network of motorable roads in the preserve connects the salt-licks and water-holes. Tame elephants can be hired for a ride around the sanctuary. The tourist with a camera can get rare and delightful shots of the wild life from the several observation towers built at strategic points. The Kurubars, a local tribal people, are expert trackers and can be hired to assist in locating the wild animals.

OPERATION KHEDA

Mysore is also famous for its *Kheda* or elephant-capture operations. One of the most thrilling spectacles of its kind anywhere, the *Kheda* is the method for driving wild elephants into an arena ringed by deep trenches. Thus caught alive, the captured elephants are roped and later trained to obey the dictates of man. This fascinating venture, involving the cooperative endeavour of more than a thousand skilled men, is hazardous and costly and sufficient advance publicity is given by the Government whenever a *Kheda* operation is planned. The last *Kheda* was held in December 1960.



The 'River Drive', the most thrilling stage in the capture of wild elephants

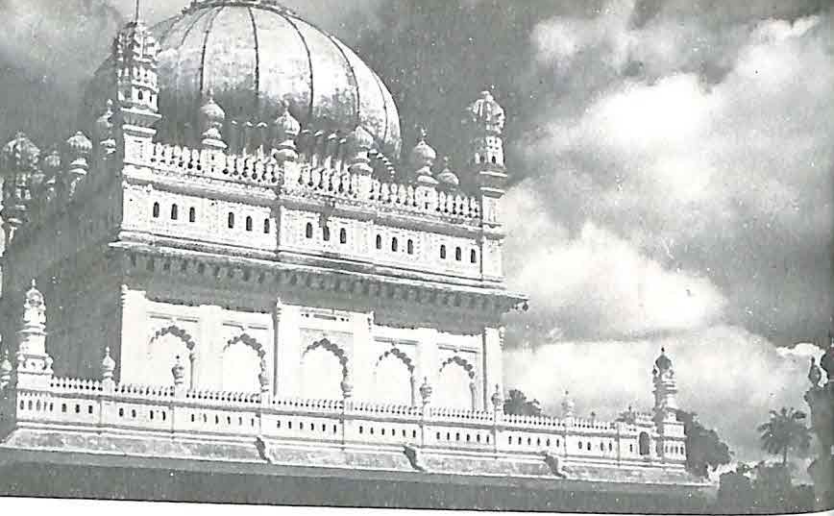


Captured elephants



*A captured wild elephant with
legs tied to a tree*





The Gumbaz, Tipu Sultan's Mausoleum

The Bandipur Sanctuary can be visited at any time of the year, including the monsoon season (June to August).

Comfortable accommodation is available at the three forest lodges and one travellers' bungalow, which are well furnished. Catering is available both in Indian and Western styles. For reservation of the forest lodges, the visitor should write to the Divisional Forest Officer, Mysore, and for the travellers' bungalow to the Assistant Engineer, P.W.D., Gundlupet.

SRIRANGAPATNA

Srirangapatna—the City of Lord Ranganath—takes its name from the imposing temple of Vishnu. This quiet island-town, 16 km. (10 miles) from Mysore, is reminiscent of many battles and past glory. Redolent of the glories of Hyder Ali and the tragedy of Tipu Sultan, who fought the last battles with the British here (1799), it is today a veritable museum of history.

Lying between two arms of the river Kaveri, the little island, on which the town stands, was marked out by Nature to play the role of a protected fortress. While legend takes its history back to antiquity, inscriptions ascribe its temple to 1200 A.D. On special occasions, devout Hindus throng this place to bathe in the river and to worship in this shrine.

Tipu Sultan, son of Hyder Ali, inherited a large dominion from his father. Srirangapatna was its capital and it became the



A panel from the paintings in the Daria Daulat Palace at Srirangapatnam.





The colourful Dussera procession, Mysore

centre of diplomatic manoeuvres against the rising imperial power of the British. Envoys had been sent by Tipu Sultan to Napoleon Bonaparte as the latter was preparing to launch an attack on the British power in Egypt before the fateful battle of the Nile. This provoked the British who decided to destroy Tipu's power.

The last battle of Mysore in 1799 spelt the ruin of the city and this once-flourishing capital even now bears the scars left by that war. The old Garrison Hospital—remnants of which are still enclosed in a ruined compound-wall—housed the British troops under Lord Wellesley (the Duke of Wellington). Other monuments of the 18th-century capital are the Jama Masjid, the Daria Daulat, and the Gumbaz.

Daria Daulat, or 'the river of wealth', stands outside the Fort. Built in 1784 in the image of the palaces of Ispahan, it lies in the midst of an exquisite garden on the river-bank. It was the summer palace of Tipu Sultan. The walls, pillars, arches and roofs of the building are covered with an amazing variety of painted designs made gorgeous by a liberal use of gold. The large panels on the outer walls, depicting battle-scenes and processions, recall episodes from the lives of Hyder Ali and Tipu Sultan. A museum, containing interesting articles and pictures of their time, has also been opened here.

The Gumbaz or the mausoleum of Tipu at the eastern end of the island is a structure of considerable beauty. Like Daria Daulat, it is also situated in the midst of a beautiful garden. This mausoleum was built by Tipu for his father and mother. The British buried him also alongside them.

Among the other places worth a visit are the Scott's Bungalow, now a fine little museum and the Abbe Du Bois Church.

Tipu Sultan's Mosque



RANGANTHITTOO BIRD SANCTUARY

Whatever his time of visit to Srirangapatna, the tourist will do well also to visit Ranganthittoo, a bird sanctuary 1.6 km. (a mile) away, and one of the few of its kind in India. The sanctuary, which consists of islets in the Kaveri river, is inhabited by a variety of storks. Primarily, it is a breeding place for herons, the breeding season depending on the arrival of monsoon showers. Usually the birds begin to arrive in June, and by the latter half of July and August the chicks are hatched.

This bird sanctuary can also be visited while on the way to Krishnaraja Sagar.

ACCOMMODATION

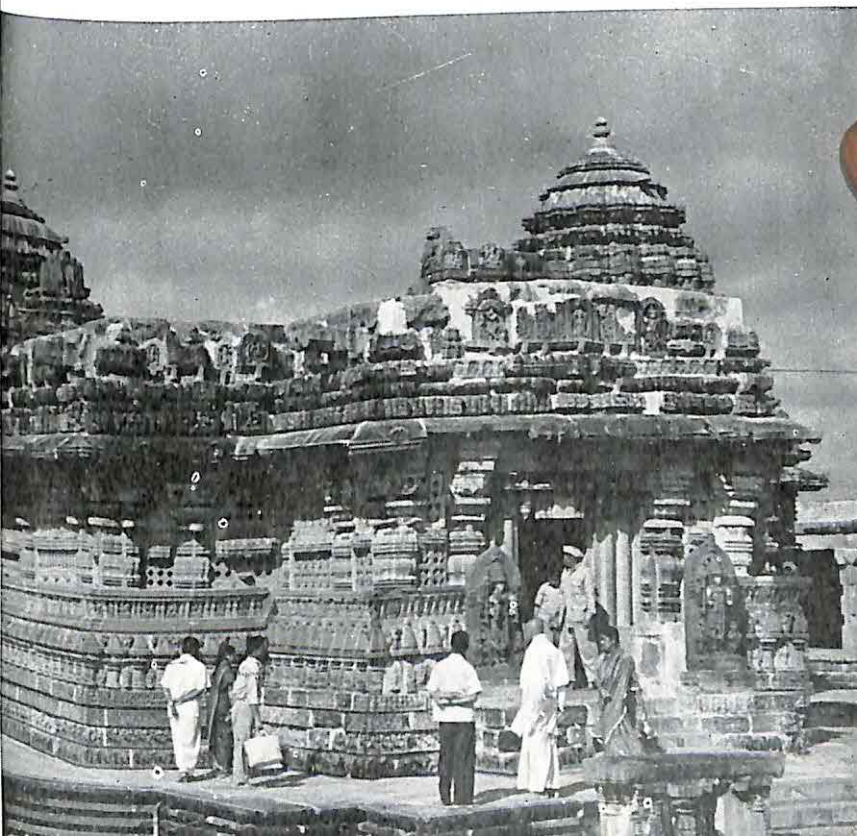
There are rest houses and a travellers' bungalow where accommodation can be had by writing to the Asstt. Engineer, P.W.D., Srirangapatna.

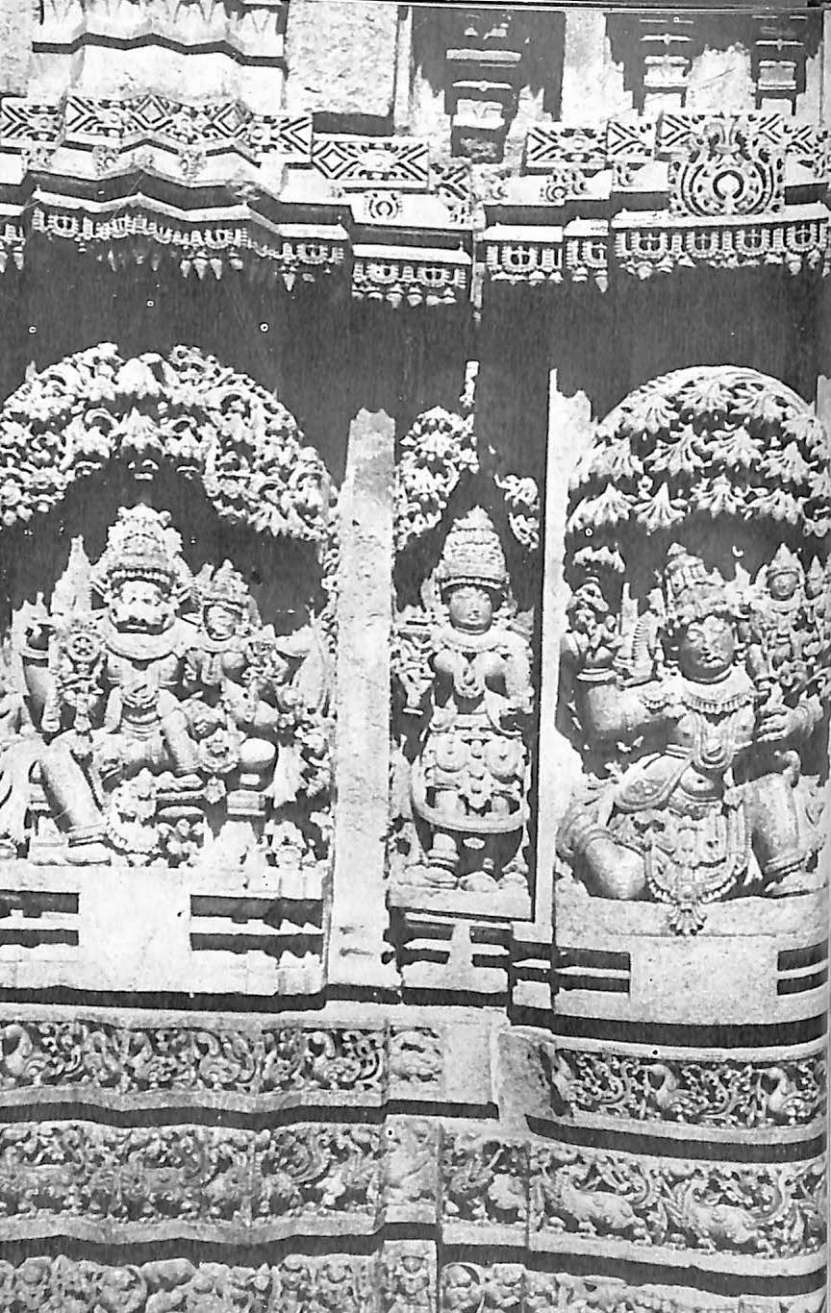


*The Kesava
Temple*

SOMNATHPUR

Forty kilometres (25 miles) east of Mysore is a small, insignificant-looking village on the roadside, famous for its exquisite 13th-century temple. Here, in 1268 A.D., Commander Soma, an officer of the Hoysala king, built the Kesava Temple, a fully developed specimen of the school of architecture patronised by this ruling dynasty.





This triple-shrine, a pot-stone structure of modest proportions, stands on a low, star-shaped platform. On its exterior walls, an amazing variety of sculptures depicting stories from the Hindu epics have been chiselled in bold relief.

An interesting feature of this monument are the ceiling panels in the main hall, each in a different design. Large pieces of minutely chiselled stones have been joined together to make these complicated patterns. No cement was used by the builders.

Of the three shrines round the central hall, two contain exquisitely beautiful, life-size statues of gods.

SIVASAMUDRAM

About forty kilometres (25 miles) from Somnathpur are the famous waterfalls of Sivasamudram or 'the Ocean of Siva', a name that is only poetically appropriate to this unassuming island-town girt by two branches of the river Kaveri. It is truly a grand meeting place of Nature's charm and Man's achievement. The huge hydro-electric station here was the first enterprise of its kind in India.

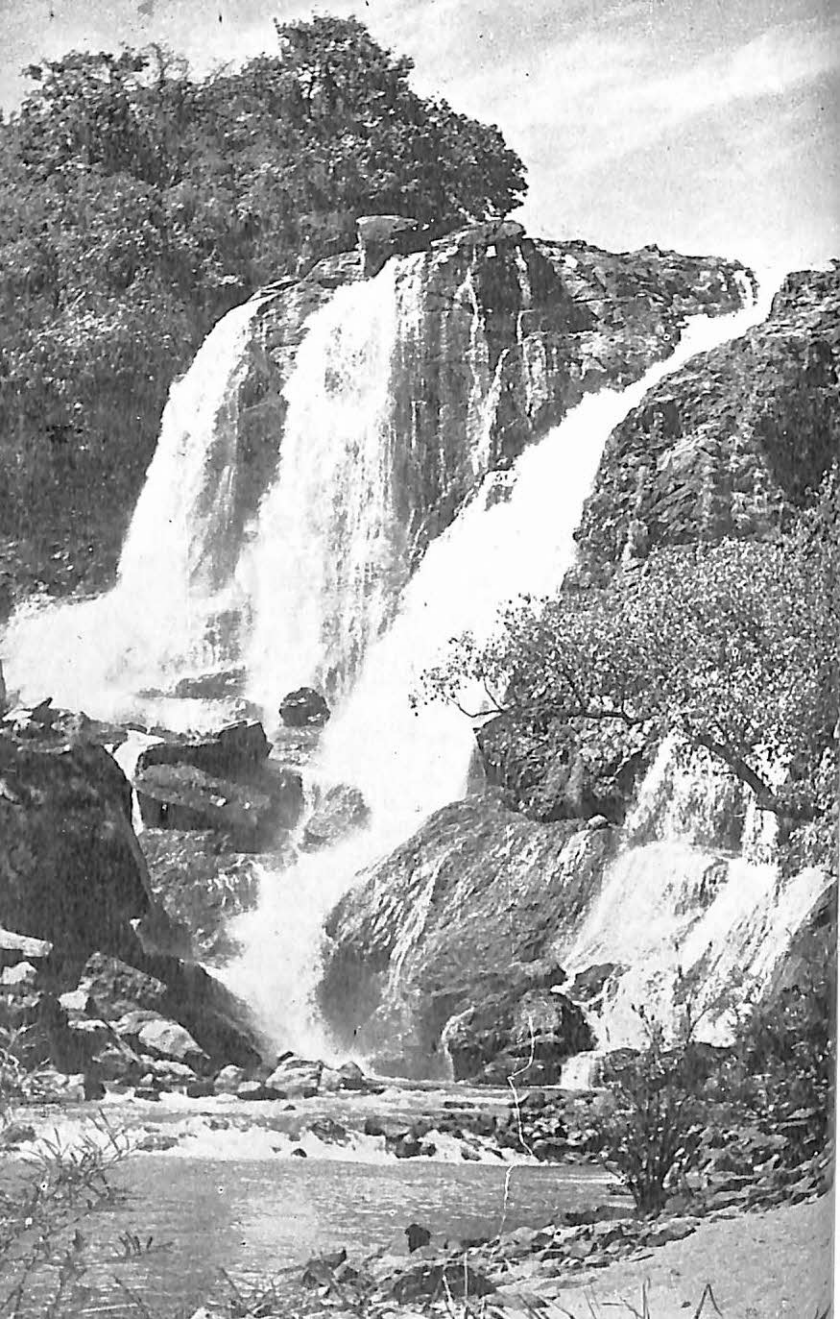
A continuous range of hills and valleys clothed in dense, green forests breaks the terrain into a series of highlands that appear on the horizon like so many waves. The wild beasts (now much depleted in number) roaming these jungles and the thundering waterfalls break its stillness to add an awesome grandeur to its beauty. Down below in the gorge, the white walls of the generating stations shimmer in the sunlight.

The twin waterfalls—Gaganchukki and Barachukki—are the most alluring spots near the island. The river splits itself into streams, of which the western one has been harnessed for electricity. It is called Gaganchukki, 'the cascade from the sky'. Rushing precipitately over the face of a huge abyss, the water of the Kaveri hurtles 91 m. (300 ft.) into the pool below. The eastern cataract, called the Barachukki, presents an even more thrilling sight. The volume of water discharged by it is very much greater and the surrounding scenic beauty is a feast for the eye.

ACCOMMODATION

Government Rest Houses and Inspection Bungalow in the charge of the General Superintendent, Sivasamudram.

A wall elaborately sculptured with the figures of Hindu gods, Kesava Temple



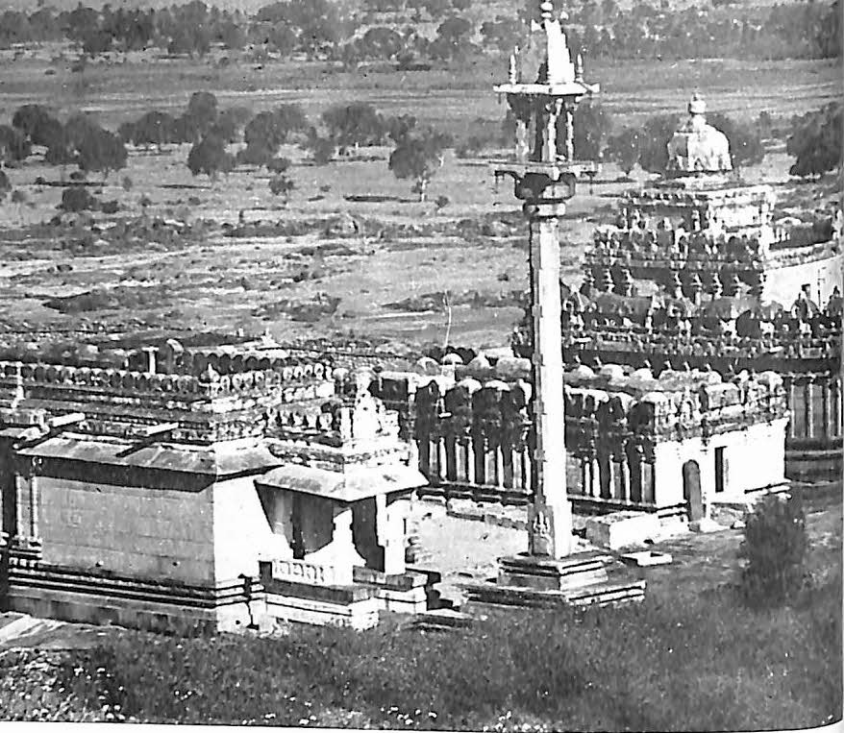


A priest performing ablation at the feet of the colossal monolithic statue of Gomateswara

SRAVANA BELGOLA

Wedged in between the two hills of Chandragiri and Indragiri, which rise abruptly from a flat plain, Sravana Belgola dominates the countryside for miles and looks picturesque. Legends associate this place with the name of Chandragupta Maurya, the celebrated grandfather of Asoka. He is said to have retired to the solitude of these hills after renouncing his kingdom.

Sravana Belgola, 100 km. (62 miles) from Mysore by road, is famous for its 17 m. (57 ft.) high Jain colossus, Gomateswara, which is said to be the tallest and most graceful monolithic statue in the world. It is believed to have been erected in the 10th century A.D. The expression of compassion put on this solid



The Jain temples

rock makes the visitor spellbound. The town, a flourishing centre of Jain pilgrimage, abounds in monuments that recall the achievements of a bygone age. Its inscribed and sculptured records have kept alive the memory of strange deeds of sacrifice and religious fervour.

The awe-inspiring 1,000-year-old monolithic statue is carved out of what was apparently a tor on the summit of the 143-m. (470-ft.) Indragiri Hill. The date-conscious visitor might be interested to know that the colossus was carved in 983 A.D. by the order of Chamundaraya, the chief minister of a local potentate, Rachamalla. A flight of 500 steps, cut into the rocky surface of the Indragiri Hill, brings the visitor to the foot of the statue.

The person whom the nude colossus symbolised was, according to tradition, the younger of the two brothers who fought a duel over succession to their father's throne. He was victorious,

but generously handed over the kingdom to his defeated brother. It was this man of great moral strength and saintliness that the sculptor has endeavoured to capture in this giant monolith.

A spectacular festival connected with this image is its head-anointing ceremony which occurs once in many years when the planets are in a particular configuration. The earliest ceremony on record took place in 1398 A.D. For the ceremony, the priests clamber up a giant scaffolding, specially built for the occasion, and empty hundreds of pots containing sixteen different substances like milk, curd, jewels and gold and silver coins over its head.

BELUR AND HALEBID

As the traveller passes through Hassan on his way from Sravana Belgola to Belur, a distance of about 56 km. (35 miles), he will notice that the scenery and climate change almost imperceptibly. Like Bangalore, the city of Hassan enjoys a cool climate. The scenery in the southern part of this district (which adjoins the north-western region of Coorg) with its soft grasslands and woods is often compared to that of the rich parklands of England.

'Dwarapalaka' (the guard) at an entrance of Hoysaleswara Temple







Saraswati, the goddess of learning — Chenna Kesava Temple

The dancing goddess — one of the numerous sculptures in the Chenna Kesava Temple



Krishna lifting the hill Govardhan—a temple sculpture

The mountain ranges of western India touch the northern and western parts of this district and gradually merge into the green and fertile plains to the east and south-east.

A motor-drive from Hassan to Belur, a distance of 35 km. (22 miles), will be found delightful. Belur was a flourishing capital of the Hoysala kings, 800 years ago. Its chief place of interest is the 12th-century temple of Chenna Kesava, a manifestation of Vishnu, which ranks among the greatest monuments of mediaeval India. It is a remarkable coincidence that the century which witnessed the construction of this and many other exquisite temples in Mysore and other parts of India, was also a period of great architectural achievements in Europe. The cathedrals of Lincoln, Glastonbury, Wells, Amiens, Rheims and Chartres in Europe belong to a period when India also experienced a great temple-building activity.

The main structure of the star-shaped Chenna Kesava Temple is a homogeneous architectural unit raised on a platform. Its three doorways—on the east, north and south—are real master pieces of craftsmanship. The low railing, on which the outer wall of the temple has been raised, is decorated with an amazing variety of carvings which rise one above the other in well-defined horizontal lines. No description can do justice to the infinite patience and skill with which the sculptors fashioned the intricate details of the scroll work, the niches, the elephants, the miniature turrets and human figures and gods. Singularly beautiful are the 38 figure-brackets that decorate the capitals of the pillars supporting the eaves of the temple. The subjects are all secular, and mostly feminine figures.

The interior of the temple also displays a profusion of artistic skill lavished on the pillars, ceilings, doorways, and the bracket-figures.

Thirteen kilometres (eight miles) from Belur is Halebid, the metropolis of the ancient Hoysala rulers. It is noted for its exquisite temples. Of these, the most imposing is the Hoysaleswara Temple, dedicated to Lord Siva.

SRINGERI

For a visit to Sringeri, the tourist may proceed from Hassan to Tarikera by rail. From there, a short journey by bus takes him to the place.

Sringeri is a reputed pilgrim centre on the banks of the river Tunga, where the great philosopher-saint Sankaracharya founded one of his famous *maths* (monasteries).

Built about the same time as the Chenna Kesava Temple, it remains an incomplete structure without the usual spire, in spite of 80 years of labour. The grandest part of the temple is its outer

walls, every square inch of which has been covered with friezes of great variety. Remarkable for artistic skill are the sculptured elephants, horses, mythical beasts and birds, the scroll work of infinite beauty and variety, and the big panels of gods and goddesses of the Hindu pantheon running all round the walls.

ACCOMMODATION

Both at Belur and Halebid, tourists can get comfortable accommodation at the Travellers' Bungalows.

CHIKMAGALUR

From Halebid and Belur, the home of Hoysala art, to the beautiful highland region of Chikmagalur, which lies 23 km. (14 miles) to the north-west by a beautiful road, is a gay excursion. An enormous ridge, 1,829 m. (6,000 ft.) above sea level, rises in the centre of this district, where the peaks are among the highest in the South. On the slopes of these mountains, which now bear his name, a Muslim saint, Baba Budan, planted a few coffee berries brought from Mecca, in the 17th century. This was the origin of the big plantations which now produce much of India's famed coffee.

ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation can be had at the Travellers' Bungalow. For reservation, please write to the Asstt. Engineer, P.W.D., Belur.

KEMMANA GUNDI

The most alluring spot on the Baba Budan Range is Kemmana Gundi, 1,448 m. (4,750 ft.) above sea level. Developed in recent years, it is an ideal place for those who seek solitude and natural beauty. The 64-km. (40-mile) road running northward from Chikmagalur to this place passes through rich coffee estates and winds through mountain slopes and the edges of valleys. Kemmana Gundi is also known for its high grade iron ore which feeds the Mysore Iron and Steel Works at Bhadravati. It is interesting to watch the precious ore being conveyed down the hill by means of a 5 km. (3 miles) long aerial ropeway worked by gravity.

ACCOMMODATION

Cottage accommodation at Kemmana Gundi can be had by writing to the Superintendent, Lal Bagh Gardens, Bangalore.

At Bhadravati, there are seven Tourist Lodges besides Rest Houses. These are under the control of the Secretary, Board of Management, Mysore Iron and Steel Works, Bhadravati.

JOG FALLS

The imposing western hill ranges, the source of South India's great rivers, are known for their scenic beauty. The luxuriant tropical landscapes of Mysore and Kerala are to be found along the

foot of the Western Ghats and the valleys watered by rivers that emanate from these mountains. The most thrilling spectacle in the entire western region of Mysore are the Jog Falls, also called the Gersoppa. The rail-head nearest to this beauty-spot is Talaguppa, 370 km. (230 miles) from Bangalore. A road journey, however, is more comfortable and less time-consuming. The journey can also be done in part by train (up to Shimoga) and then by road (100 km. or 62 miles) to Jog. The road passes through a densely wooded district and the countryside reveals itself in all its green splendour, full of rice fields, coconut and areca gardens.

Before arriving at the Mysore Bungalow, from where a splendid view of the Falls can be had, the traveller crosses the river Sharavati, flowing softly and gracefully before taking a leap into the chasm 253 m. (830 ft.) below. This is truly one of the grandest sights a tourist will come across anywhere.

The river Sharavati hurtles in four separate cascades. Of these, the first known as 'Raja' or the 'Monarch' is the grandest. An unbroken sheet of water, the Raja takes a plunge into the vapour-shrouded pool, 259 m. (850 ft.) below. Half-way down, it is joined by its junior colleague, the 'Roarer'. The 'Rocket' leaps down in a series of cascades. The last, the 'Rani' (the queen) quietly glides away with a delicate feminine grace. To the whirling columns of foam released by the impact of falling water, flirting rainbows, dangling in the air across the basin, add colour and an ethereal beauty.

The Mahatma Gandhi Hydro-electric Works at Jog can be seen by visitors by prior permission of the Superintendent. The Sharavathi Valley Project is an additional attraction.

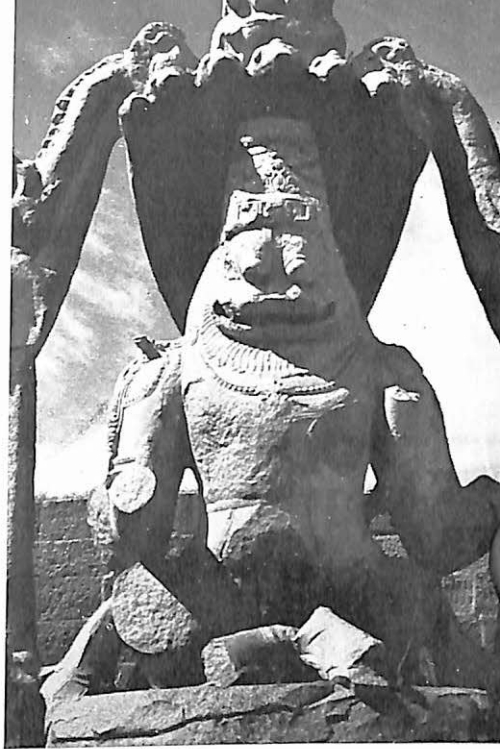
ACCOMMODATION

For permission to stay at the Rest Houses and Inspection Bungalow, please write to the Superintendent, Mahatma Gandhi Hydro-electric Works, Jog.

HAMPI AND THE VIJAYANAGAR RUINS

Hampi, once a flourishing capital of the Vijayanagar kingdom, is today a small village 11 km. (seven miles) from Hospet, exhibiting the vast relics of the great empire. To the north, the tumultuous Tungabhadra roars down a rock-strewn channel through narrow gorges.

Founded in the year 1336 A.D. by two Hindu princes, Harihara I and Bukka, under the guidance of Vidyaranya, Vijayanagar (the City of Victory) advanced rapidly in power, wealth and culture for two centuries. The most outstanding monarch of this kingdom was Krishna Deva Raya who raised his empire to the zenith of its glory during the years 1509 and 1529.



The battered monolithic statue of Narasimha

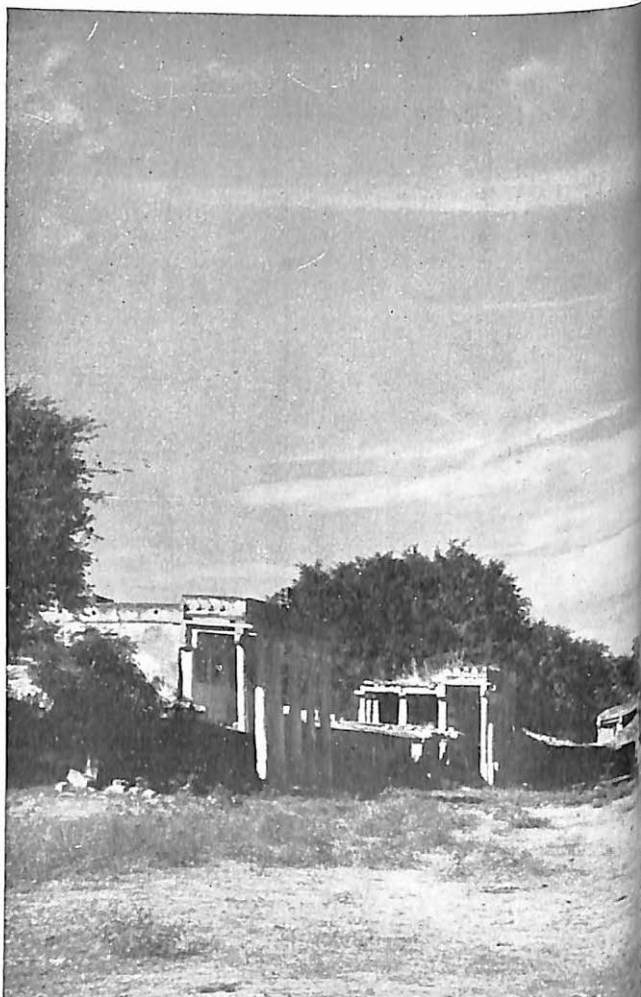
This great and powerful kingdom, however, came to an end at the battle of Talikota, in 1565, when the Shahi kingdoms of the north defeated the Vijayanagar king. The city was plundered and then reduced to ruins. The temples and ruined palaces lie scattered over an area of 23 sq. km. (9 sq. miles). Among those which can be seen here are:

Pattabhirama Temple: Largest shrine among the ruins, this temple, built during 1530-42, is remarkable for its size and the lofty proportions of the great hall in front of the shrine.

Dussehra Dibba or Vijaya Bhavani: Built by Krishna Deva Raya in commemoration of his conquest of Orissa in 1513 A.D., this throne platform, where public festivals like Dussehra were celebrated, is elaborately carved. The bas-reliefs depict marching soldiers, dancing girls, horses and elephants.

Vitthala Temple: The most magnificent building among the extant structures is the temple of Vitthala with its exquisite stone-car built by Krishna Deva Raya. The temple stands on a rectangular courtyard, 152 m. \times 94 m. (500 ft. \times 310 ft.).

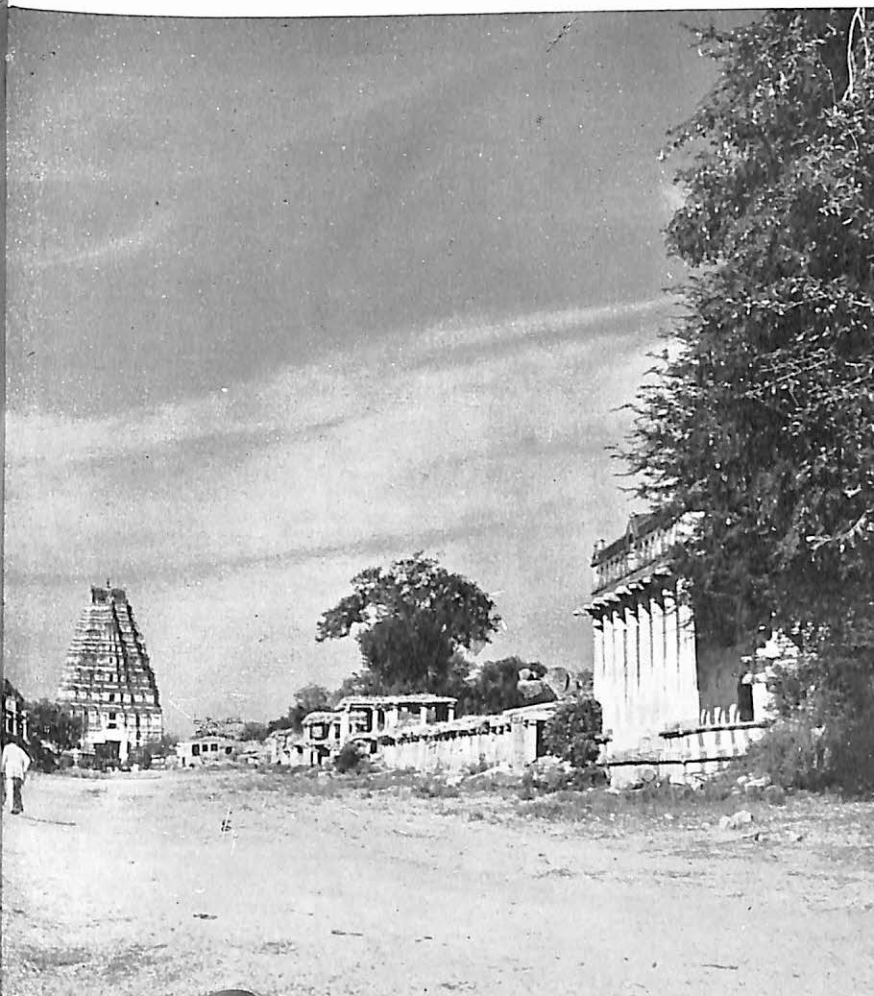
Hazara Rama Temple is another building fortunately well preserved. The outer walls of this temple are sculptured with friezes of elephants, camels, horses and men, and on the inner



walls, there are bas-reliefs of scenes from the great epics, the *Ramayana* and the *Mahabharata*.

There is another building (with lofty domed roofs and arched entrances) which is generally known as the elephant stables. Two other buildings near the elephant stables are said to have been the Concert Hall and the Council Room.

A broad street with the great temple of Hampi in the background



There are two colossal monoliths—a water-trough and a statue of Siva. Another monolithic statue is that of Yoga Narasimha standing on the eastern gateway of the Pampapati Temple.

The temple of Pampapati is dedicated to Virupaksha, the dynastic God of the Vijayanagar kings. With a 37-m. (120-ft.) high tower on its eastern entrance and stairways running in the thickness of the walls, this temple is a marvel of engineering skill.

The *Tungabhadra Project* has South India's largest stone masonry dam across the river Tungabhadra. The project site is 16 km. (10 miles) to the west of Hampi. This is one of the major irrigation projects commanding a total area of 8,09,372 ha. (2 million acres). The water is also utilised to develop 99,000 kw. of electric power.

ACCOMMODATION

Rest Houses: (1) Bellary Guest House at Bellary, 64 km. (40 miles) from Hampi; (2) P.W.D. Inspection Bungalow or Vaikunt Dam Site, at Tungabhadra, 4·8 km. (3 miles) from Hospet; (3) P.W.D. Inspection Bungalow at Kamalapuram; (4) P.W.D. Inspection Bungalow at Hospet. For reservation, please write to the Collector, Bellary.

RAICHUR

If you seek further adventure in the relics of old, then the adjoining northern districts can offer plenty of additional sites. You can get back to Guntakal from Hospet, and catch the next train to Raichur (97 km. or 60 miles). Raichur, now a district headquarters town, has a history that takes one back to the 13th century. The most notable tourist attraction of this place is its ancient fortress, an example of Hindu military architecture.

GULBARGA

North of Raichur is Gulbarga, also capital of a mediaeval kingdom, rich in historical associations. Its fort is a remarkable building with 15 towers. Within the fort is a large mosque built on the model of the famous mosque of Cordoba in Spain, and the only one of its kind in India.

BIDAR

North of Gulbarga is Bidar, accessible by road and rail from Hyderabad. Its importance is also mainly historical. The most interesting places at Bidar are the Old Fort and the New Fort, the latter having been built in the 14th century. Within the forts are three ancient palaces dating back to the 15th century. The other important monuments are the tombs of the Bahmani and Baridi kings and the Jharni Narasimha Temple.

ACCOMMODATION

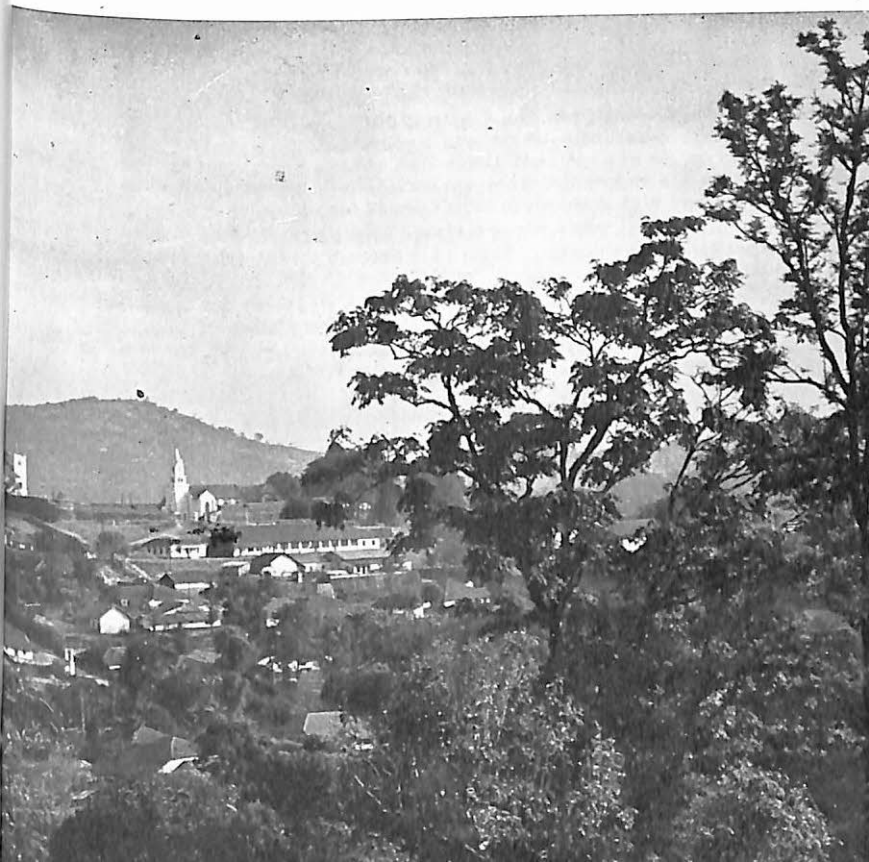
Rest House and P.W.D. Guest House under the control of the Executive Engineer, Bidar.

COORG

With the attainment of independence, Coorg was constituted as a State with its own legislature and cabinet. After the re-organisation of the States in 1956, this small State became an integral part of the new Mysore State.

Cradled in the seductive charms of the Western Ghats, Coorg is one of the loveliest districts of Mysore. It is a thickly wooded region (altitude 823—1,158 m. or 2,700—3,800 ft.) with coffee plantations, orange groves and smiling rice fields. Its 55,000 inhabitants, the Kodavas, are a handsome, hospitable and cultured race with martial traditions.

A picturesque view of Mercara, the principal town



The most convenient approach to Coorg is from Mysore. As it is not served by rail, it is approached only by road. If you wish to proceed from Mysore to Malabar and from there to Cochin, you would do well to plan your journey through Coorg. Passenger buses, which ply regularly between Mysore and Mangalore on the West Coast, pass through Mercara, the capital of Coorg. From Mysore, the journey to Mercara by bus takes about four hours and by car even less. As you approach the border of Coorg you will notice that the scenic aspect of the country changes from the prosaic, familiar verdure of the plains to the thickly wooded grandeur of the Western Ghats. Viewed from an elevation, these hills and valleys seem to roll away and disappear in the dreamy, blue haze of the distant horizon.

As you wind your way through forests, coffee plantations, orange groves and rice fields, you will pass through a cross-section of Coorg's natural scenery. A variety of wild flowers add colour and richness to the luxuriant vegetation of this region. Sometimes, for long distances, you might fail to see a human being in the vicinity—so sparse is the population.

In appearance, too, the Coorgi is distinctive. He has regular features, a fair complexion and a good physique. He seems to carry an air of stateliness about him. According to legend, the people are descended from an ancient fighting race. Many of them hold high positions in India's armed forces.

Kannada is the written language of the people, though they speak their own dialect. English has become almost their second language.

Like the men of Mysore, the Coorgis also wear the turban, but tie it in a slightly different style. The women of Coorg, like their kind anywhere else in India, wear the sari, but in a style so strikingly different that they can be easily marked out from the rest. One end of the sari is gathered at the back and passing under the left shoulder, is taken over the right and tied up in a convenient knot. They wear a tight-fitting jacket and cover the head with a separate piece of cloth in such a way that its rich gold or silver border girdles the well-groomed head in a sort of golden halo, throwing into bold relief their pretty features.

Coorg is a fertile region of hills and dales with a heavy rainfall. Its main crops are rice, coffee and oranges. Mercara, the biggest town, is the easiest to reach.

MERCARA

To a visitor who desires to enjoy the quietude and beauty of Coorg, the best place would perhaps be a coffee plantation if he can manage to secure the private hospitality of a planter. Small game hunting is possible anywhere in these estates and a visitor from England would perhaps be surprised at the striking resemblance of the scenery with that of Wales or Scotland.



A man in his traditional costume



*A Coorg girl in the costume
typical of her region*

A group dance by Kodavas



Failing such an opportunity, he could stay in Mercara, the chief town of the district. Hotel facilities do not, however, exist, but accommodation and food are available at the Travellers' Bungalow from where short tours of the countryside can be made without the help of any guide.

Mercara has a fortress built by the Rajahs of Coorg on a hill overlooking the town. With the annexation of the territory by the British, the old palaces and other apartments were converted into District offices. The only big temple in the town, dedicated to the Hindu deity, Omkareswara, stands close to the fortress and deserves a visit because of the peculiar combination of the Hindu and local Muslim styles in its architecture.

A place of interest in Coorg is Talakaveri, the spot where the biggest river of South India, the Kaveri, takes its birth. Forty kilometres (25 miles) from Mercara by road, Talakaveri may be reached by bus or car. It is a place where you will find the typical sylvan grandeur of Coorg.

ACCOMMODATION

Rest Houses and a Government Guest House where tourists can stay. For reservation, please write to the District Commissioner, Mercara.

NAGARHOLE WILD LIFE SANCTUARY

Nagarhole Sanctuary is a wild life reserve which affords the visitor a chance to see the wild elephant, besides, of course, the deer, panther, jackal, and if one is lucky, the tiger. The sanctuary is 98 km. (61 miles) from Mercara, the road being motorable throughout the year. For arrangements, please contact the Forest Officer, Mercara.

ACCOMMODATION

Guest House (Forest Lodge) in the charge of the Forest Officer, Mercara.

MANGALORE

From Mercara to Mangalore—a beautiful, palm-fringed port on the western coast of Mysore—is a pleasant (113-km. or 70-mile) journey by road. The tourist, who has time to spare, can make it a base for a number of interesting excursions in the neighbourhood.

In the quality of its landscape, Mangalore resembles Kerala's coastal towns. It has its share of backwaters and palm groves and enjoys a mild climate in winter as well as summer. For long, Mangalore has been an important centre of the Indian Catholics.

Mangalore is the headquarters of the South Kanara District and is located near the backwaters formed by the Netravathi and Gurpur rivers. Being an important port on the West Coast,

It is connected with Bombay by a weekly boat service. Among the other important places here are the Mangaladevi Temple, the Kadri Hill and the Sultan Battery. The Sultan Battery is a remnant of Tipu Sultan's fort which once guarded his naval station here. Fifty kilometres (31 miles) away is Karkala which is famous for its monolithic 13-m. (42-ft.) colossus of Gomateswara, a Jaina saint. The town is an important commercial centre for coffee and cashewnut. It is also a well-known tile manufacturing centre.

ACCOMMODATION

Inspection Bungalow under the charge of the Collector, South Kanara District, Mangalore.

NORTHERN MYSORE

The northern districts were included in Mysore only in 1956. Culturally, this region has been exposed to influences both from Maharashtra in the north and from the heart of the Kannada region in the south.

The quickest way to get to northern Mysore is to travel by air from Mangalore, Bombay or Bangalore to Belgaum which is a convenient base for a tour of the adjoining districts. Belgaum has well-furnished Travellers' Bungalows where catering in Western-style can be arranged on prior intimation.

The loveliest spot in the Belgaum district is the Gokak Falls. Here, the river Ghataprabha hurtles down 52m. (170 ft.). Five kilometres (3 miles) from here is a rest house where the visitor can stay.

DHARWAR

Dharwar is noted for its educational and cultural activities. The University of Karnataka is located here. The city has a bracing climate and is 75 km. (46 miles) from Belgaum.

ACCOMMODATION

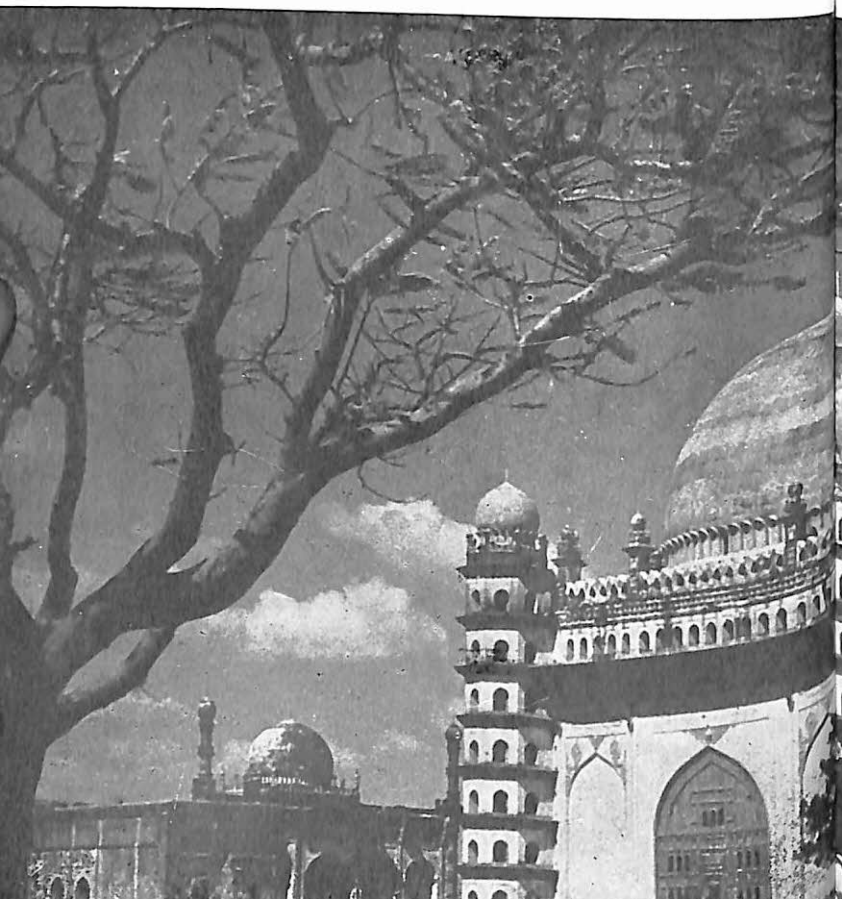
(1) Inspection Bungalow. For reservation, write to the Executive Engineer, Dharwar Division, Dharwar. (2) University Guest House under the charge of the Registrar of Karnataka University, Dharwar.

KARWAR

If the idea of a drive through the densely wooded terrain of the West Coast thrills you, then the road from Hubli to Karwar would be just the thing to take. The road winds its way up the ridges and down the valleys, clothed in jungles abounding in wild animals. Karwar can also be visited by a weekly steamer from Bombay.

A particularly noteworthy feature of this pleasant sea-side resort is its beach and the fine scenery around. Motor-launches

are available if you feel like exploring the beautiful Kali river valley. There is a lighthouse in the bay with a cluster of islets called the Oyster Rocks, 11 km. (7 miles) from Karwar. Good salmon fishing is available from August to October and shikar can be had from November to February.



ACCOMMODATION

Hotels: Grand Hotel.

Rest House: Dak Bungalow and Inspection Bungalow. For reservation, please write to the Deputy Commissioner, North Kanara District.

The Gol Gumbaz



GOKARNA

Situated on the shores of the Arabian Sea, Gokarna is 35 miles from Karwar. It is a well-known pilgrim centre lavished with natural beauty. The Mahabaleswar temple here is famed for its sanctity and antiquity. Gokarna has a modern Government Rest House on a hill overlooking the sea.

DANDELI WILD LIFE SANCTUARY

About 76 km. (47 miles) from Dharwar by road, this wild life sanctuary can also be approached by way of Alnawar on the Mangalore-Poona line. The sanctuary, which is not accessible during the monsoon (June to October), covers an area of 207 sq. km. (80 square miles) and there are two watch towers 11 km. (7 miles) inside. The forest is well known as the abode of elephants, bisons, panthers, tigers, sambars and chitals. The place abounds in excellent viewpoints and beauty spots. Dandeli area is being developed into an industrial township.

ACCOMMODATION

Four Forest Bungalows are available at Dandeli. One Dak Bungalow is at Kulgi (11 km. or 7 miles) and one at Mandurli (19 km. or 12 miles). For arrangements and reservation, please write to the Forest Department, Dandeli.

BIJAPUR

Bijapur (City of Victory), 666 km. (414 miles) from Bangalore, experienced a great burst of architectural activity under the Adil Shahi dynasty. The first king of Bijapur was Yusuf Khan—a son of Amurath II of Anatolia—a Turk who was brought to India as an infant. The Adil Shahis encouraged building activity to such an extent that Bijapur itself has over 50 mosques, more than 20 tombs and an equal number of palaces.

The first notable building of the time of Ali Shah I (1558–80) is the Jami Masjid, a very fine example of the restrained, classical style. It is unfinished, however, lacking two minarets, and the gateway is a later addition by Aurangzeb, the Mughal Emperor. Its imposing size (the rectangle is 137 m. × 70 m. or 450 ft. × 225 ft.) and the immense pile of the exterior, relieved by two rows of arcades, add to its dignity. The courtyard inside the mosque has an arrangement of seven arches, each on three sides. The sanctuary is spacious and simple.

The second important building in this style is the Ibrahim Rauza, a tomb just outside the west city wall. It consists of a tomb and a mosque inside a square enclosure, a delightful garden retreat. The tomb has elaborate workmanship, evidently executed on the orders of Ibrahim Adil Shah (1580–1627), and it is one of the finest examples of its kind.

The Gol Gumbaz (round dome), the tomb of Muhammad Adil Shah (1627-57), was apparently aimed at outstripping all other mausoleums in size if nothing else. The dome is one of the largest of its kind, the total area covered by it being over 1,672 sq. m. (18,000 sq. ft.). The building includes a mosque, a *nakkar khana*, a gateway and *dharamsala* (guest house), all within a single enclosure which compares with the Pantheon at Rome and the Basilica of Constantine. Viewed from outside, the most interesting features (apart from the size of the dome) are the octagonal turrets which project at each angle, and the huge bracketed cornice below the parapet. The interior, like the exterior, is severely bare. Except for the wooden pavilion in the centre, the only other features are the tall pointed arches supporting the dome.

There are several other interesting buildings in Bijapur. These include the city's seven gates; the Asar-i-Sharif palace where there are relics of the Prophet Mohammed; Anand Mahal where the ladies of the palace lived; Gagan Mahal with its three magnificent arches; Sat Manzili, a seven-storey pleasure palace overlooking the city; and Chini Mahal. Some of the mosques may be visited. The best known are the Old Mosque (a converted Jain temple), Bokhara Masjid, Andu Masjid (two storeyed and with a fluted dome and four graceful minarets), the Zanjiri Masjid, the Makka Masjid (a miniature mosque of fine proportions and exquisite simplicity of design), and the Mihtari Masjid, which has a finely wrought gateway. Of the many tombs, one should see Ali Adil Shah's which is unfinished. If completed, it might have surpassed all others in size and workmanship.

ACCOMMODATION

One Travellers' Bungalow and two Inspection Bungalows (if not occupied by Government officials). Enquiries and reservations can be made through the Chief Officer, Bijapur Municipality or the Executive Engineer, Bijapur.

Vishnu in reclining pose, a temple carving





The sculptures, carved pillars and ceiling of Cave No. 1 at Badami

Carving on a temple pillar



BADAMI, AIHOLE AND PATTADAKAL

From the monuments of Bijapur to the temples of Badami, Aihole and Pattadakal is a backward journey in time of more than a thousand years. Situated within a few kilometres of one another, these three villages are usually not frequented by the ordinary tourist. Their fame rests on the remarkable group of 7th-8th century temples built by the Chalukyas, once powerful rulers of this region. Those interested in Hindu temple architecture will see in these structures early experiments in the art of temple-building which blossomed, four centuries later, into the highly ornate temples of Belur and Halebid.

The tourist wishing to cover these places by road can start—with packed lunch—from Bijapur where taxis are available. A car trip to Badami, Aihole and Pattadakal (282 km. or 175 miles) can be done in one day. Taxis are also available at Bagalkot, a station 90 km. (56 miles) from Bijapur and 26 km. (16 miles) from Badami.

Badami, once the capital of the Chalukyas, is noted for several temples of an early period. Some of these are structural and others rock-cut. The interior of some of these caves or rock-cut temples, which are either Brahmanical or Jaina, contain panels of excellent sculptures. Of the structural temples of Badami, the Mahakuteswara and the Maleguti Shivalaya are worth visiting.

Pattadakal, 29 km. (18 miles) from Badami, has about ten temples with interesting architectural features. The Papanatha Temple, built about 680 A.D., was an early attempt to develop the northern style of architecture. This was later abandoned in favour of the more balanced Dravidian or Pallava style as exemplified in the famous monuments of Mahabalipuram and Kanchipuram in Madras State. The Virupaksha Temple at Pattadakal (about 740 A.D.) is the finest of the shrines built in the southern or Dravidian style.

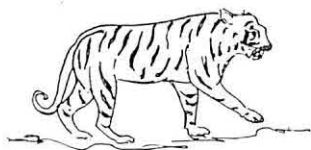
To reach Aihole, which is 13 km. (8 miles) from Pattadakal, one has to cross the river Malaprabha. There are as many as

70 ancient temples in this small village, and some of them belong to an even earlier period than the Chalukyan era (about 500 A.D.). Of these, the outstanding ones include the Ladh Khan, Durga and Meguti temples. In the Ladh Khan Temple, we see the early beginnings of both the Dravidian (Madras region) and the Chalukyan (Mysore region) styles of architecture. The Durga Temple is an interesting Hindu adaptation of the Buddhist *chaitya* hall with its apsidal end. The Meguti Temple, situated atop a small hill and built in 634 A.D., has superior masonry work.

ACCOMMODATION

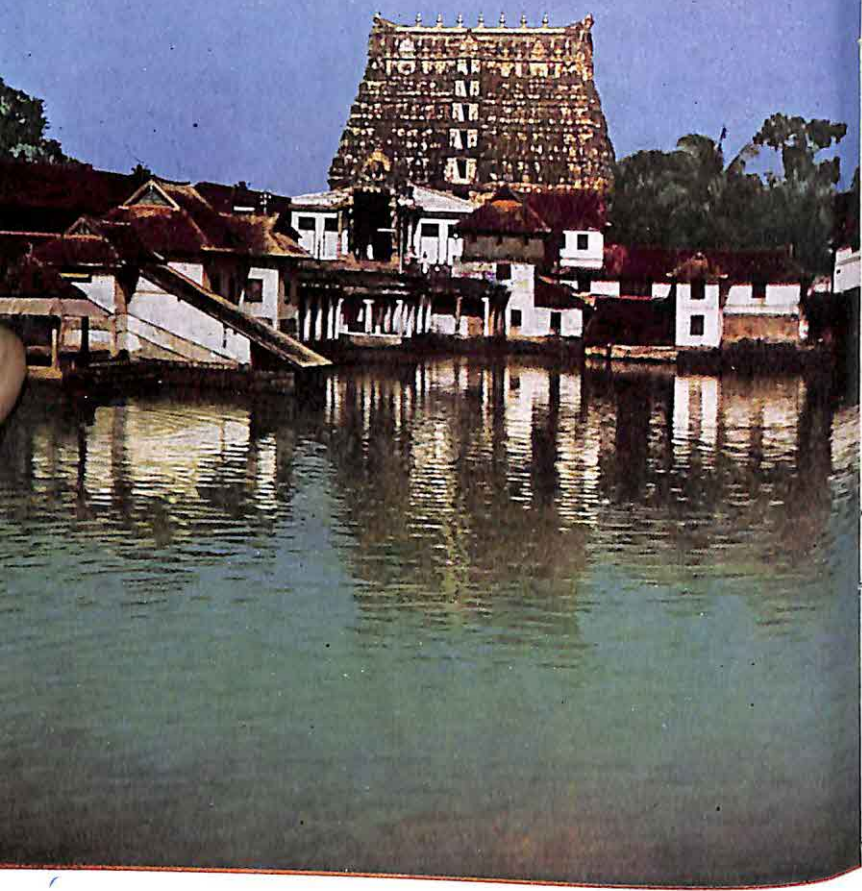
Inspection Bungalows at Badami and Bagalkot, both in the charge of the Executive Engineer, P.W.D., Bagalkot.

This brief account of select places of interest in the Mysore State does not by any means fit into a specific itinerary. The attractions are in fact so many and so widely distributed over the entire State that the tourist has to make a careful selection.



KERALA





The gopuram of Sri Padmanabhaswami Temple, Trivandrum, with the sacred tank in the foreground.

KERALA

Situated between the evergreen Western Ghats (Sahyadri) and the deep blue Arabian Sea, Kerala is famed for its arresting natural beauty. It looks like a fairyland with its dense forests, fresh green hills, palm-fringed lakes, rivers, backwaters and lagoons. No wonder that in such inspiring surroundings and peaceful atmosphere, religion, culture and art flourished in Kerala from time immemorial.

Kerala is a happy mingling place of all major religions. Ancient temples, churches and mosques are scattered all over the State. There are synagogues too, built by the ancient Jewish settlers. It has been a centre of Sanskrit—the language of Indian culture. Here took birth the famous dance drama, Kathakali, which was evolved from Kudiattam, a very ancient form of Sanskrit drama. Believed to have been popular in Kerala at the time *Silappathikaram*, the famous Tamil classic, was written, that is, about two thousand years ago, Kudiattam is still staged in some of the temple auditoriums in Kerala.

The exuberant beauty of the landscape, coupled with the ancient lore of its people, has been an irresistible attraction for visitors to Kerala from ancient times—as long as 3,000 years when the Phoenicians came here for trading in ivory, spices and peacocks.

Smallest amongst the Indian States, apart from the Union territories, Kerala occupies an area of 38,855 sq. km. (15,000 sq. miles), about 1.3 per cent of the whole of India. With over 17 million people, that is 1,127 persons per sq. mile, Kerala has the highest density of population in India. It has, too, the highest percentage of literacy (46.8).

The State stretches about 580 km. (360 miles) along the Arabian Sea, flanked by Mysore State in the north and north-east and Madras State on the east and south. The Western Ghats form almost a continuous mountain wall on the east, marking off the land as a distinct entity. The Ghats, broken by long spurs, maintain an average height of 912 metres (3,000 ft.). At places the ranges reach a height of 1825 m. to 2434 m. (6,000 ft. to 8,000). The Anamalai Peak in Kottayam district, which has an elevation of 2689 m. (8,837 ft.), forms the highest peak in India south of the Himalayas.

The Kerala landscape, a gift of the sea and the mountains, presents a different look from that of any other region in India. 'The God that made Kerala had green thumbs', said a tourist, overwhelmed by its scenic splendour. Viewed from an aircraft, the landscape with its canopy of coconut groves, of massed vegetation, and the dark bluish green of the mountain wilds,

looks like a sea of dense greenery, relieved here and there by a few open tracts. Coming from Madras State by train or by road, a tourist will be struck by the abrupt change of scenery as he enters the rugged Ghats. The tropical sunshine and the heavy monsoon rains have made it a land of perpetual spring, robed in exuberant vegetation. With no sharp contrast in seasons, trees flower and bear fruit for a great part of the year, filling the air with the fragrance of plumerias and spices.

The coastal belt, a narrow strip of land, is the most picturesque region of Kerala broken as it is by extensive backwaters, lagoons and canals, and flanked by luxuriant coconut groves and green rice fields. A few miles from the sea, the surface gathers into slopes and clustering hills, with numerous valleys in between. This undulating midland is watered and enlivened by innumerable rivers and streams and presents a panorama of the most delightful landscape. The elevation rises gradually through a progression of low laterite hills, interspersed with paddy fields and coconut and arecanut groves. This ends abruptly in deep ravines and thick jungles that mark the beginning of the mountains. The ranges have gentle contours and rounded tops, and one hardly finds sharp peaks, so characteristic of the Himalayas. Evergreen forests cover the tops while on the lower slopes are valuable teak, rich plantations of cardamom, tea, rubber, coffee and pepper.

Of the two monsoon rains that drench the land, the south-west monsoon, between May and August, is very heavy, when the seashore, sky and the mountains present a spectacle of awe and grandeur. The north-east monsoon, in October, is lighter. The heavy rains and the broken terrains have given Kerala a number of rivers flowing from the mountains westwards, until they lose themselves in the deep backwaters and the blue sea. The Bharatapuzha and the Periyar are the longest rivers.

Along the coast, the climate is equable and damp. The temperature seldom falls below 21.1°C (70°F) and hardly ever rises over 35.6°C (96°F). In the Ghat area, it varies with the altitude, and at higher elevations it is temperate in character.

Kerala is rich in minerals, the most important being monazite which is abundant on its beaches. Monazite is being processed at Alwaye into thorium fuel for atomic energy development.

Amidst the clumps of coconut, jack-fruit, mango, bananas and pepper vines are homesteads, temples, mosques and churches scattered all over the land. The villages of Kerala are not the usual cluster of houses surrounded by arable land and common amenities as found in other parts of India, but complete, neat, little independent homesteads. Each one of these houses may be called a family villa with all its requirements and amenities

provided within its boundaries. Ibn Batuta, the Arab traveller, said as early as the 14th century: "The whole way by land (down the coast) lies under the shade of trees, and in all the space of two months' journey, there is not one span free from cultivation. Everybody has his garden and has the house planted in the middle of it."

Often a question arises in the mind of the visitor: 'Where does this village end?' For, the land is one of unbroken verdure. From the first millennium B.C., according to tradition, the 'land of spices' attracted ships from the Red Sea and the Persian Gulf





ports. The first direct allusion to Kerala is found in an inscription of Emperor Asoka (3rd century B.C.). It is believed that by the first century A.D. the whole of Kerala and the surrounding regions came under the powerful dynasty of the Cheras, who ruled under the style of Perumals from Tiruvanchikulam near Cranganore (Muziris). By this time, Kerala had developed extensive maritime trade. Ships from countries of the West and the East, laden with gold, sailed to Kerala and carried back spices, ivory, pearl, pepper and other products. The chief ports were Cranganore, Kozhikode (Calicut) and Cannanore. The last Chera emperor (9th century), says a legend, accepted Islam and went on a pilgrimage to Mecca after dividing his kingdom among his relatives and nobles.

The history of Kerala for the next six centuries was one of internecine strife between the various chiefs. Following Vasco da Gama's historic landing in Kozhikode (Calicut) in 1498, the Portuguese established trading centres in Malabar. The Dutch, the French and the British followed them for trade and for political power, and the history of Kerala became a tangle of intrigues and shifting alliances between the European powers and the local kingdoms, resulting finally in the ascendancy of the British. Raja Marthanda Varma, who consolidated Travancore (the southern kingdom) in the 18th century, being menaced by Tipu Sultan of Mysore, entered into a treaty with the British. So did the Raja of Cochin (the middle kingdom) being almost continuously engaged in an unequal war with the Zamorin of Calicut, the most powerful ruler of Malabar. Malabar and Cochin passed under the sway of the Mysore ruler for a few years, and on Tipu's defeat in the battle at Seringapatam, in 1791, became a part of British India. In November 1956, nine years after India's freedom, the three regions which had remained disunited for centuries, joined to form Kerala as it is today.

However, in spite of all these contacts with the outside world and the internal feuds and wars, the people of Kerala have preserved their cultural unity till today.

PEOPLE

Some of the basic social features of Kerala are peculiar to the land, and may be of interest to the visitor.

Occupying the highest position in the social hierarchy are the Brahmins, known as Nambudiris. The Nambudiris, who form a distinct class, are Vedic Brahmins. They originally devoted themselves exclusively to religion, and later became great patrons of learning and of the fine arts. They are responsible for keeping Sanskrit scholarship a living tradition. They have made a profound contribution to Kerala's culture. The great Indian philosopher-saint Sankaracharya (8th century A.D.), who was the exponent of the Adwaita (monistic) philosophy, was a Nambudiri Brahmin. The Nambudiri houses are called *Illams*. Of the women in Kerala, only those belonging to the Nambudiri caste continue to observe any sort of purdah, but the practice is steadily disappearing.

More a race than a caste, the Nairs were originally captains of war. The Nair gentry was more like the Samurais of Japan, hereditarily attached as fighting men to the ruling chiefs, and wielding local political power. They were well-versed in the use of weapons and in feats of agility and gymnastics. Their deeds of valour fill many a page in the chronicles of ancient Kerala. The community still retains its old vigour, but it has now taken to many progressive professions.



The matriarchal system of family organisation among the Nairs has been an interesting institution. All persons of the family traced their descent, succession and inheritance on their mother's side to a common ancestress. There was an impartible joint family, *tarowd*, under a *Karnavar* who was the oldest male member of the family. Their resources and earnings were pooled as a commonwealth. Under legislation and modern economic conditions the system is giving place to the patriarchal family system. However, women continue to enjoy freedom and importance as before.

The Thiya or Ezhavas are basically a cultivating class, their traditional occupation being the coconut industry. But many Ezhava families have the tradition of excelling in the arts of war and in their profound knowledge of indigenous medical science. Numerically large, they are a progressive community, and many of them are found in learned professions and in the services. Sri Narayana Guru, yogi and philosopher, who preached 'one race, one religion, one God for mankind' belonged to this community. One of the greatest of modern Malayalam poets, Kumaran Asan, was also from this community.

There are also a large number of other Hindu castes distributed all over the State. These include several hill tribes, like the Pandarams, Uralis, Ullatans and Mudrans. They offer a virgin field for anthropological and sociological study.

The Christians of Kerala are a very enterprising community. Having distinguished themselves in agriculture, trade and in the liberal professions, they are in the forefront of the public life in Kerala. They have made considerable contributions in the fields of education and industry and in the economic development of the State.

Kerala was the earliest seat of Christianity in India. The religion traces its origin to Apostolic times dating from 52 A.D. when St. Thomas was believed to have landed in Cranganore. Some, however, hold the view that Christianity was introduced there from West Asia by Thomas of Kana in the fourth century. According to others, Christianity was first preached in Kerala in the fifth century by Nestorian missionaries from Persia.

The Muslims of Kerala are known as Moplas. An industrious class, their main occupation is trade. A few are engaged in agriculture and industry. Some Arabic records state that a few missionaries sent out by the Prophet reached Kerala nearabout 610 A.D. and converted a number of people to Islam.

Kerala has a small colony of Jews. It is believed that some of their ancestors came to the Malabar coast in the ships of King Solomon. Others, displaced from Jerusalem after the destruction of the Second Temple, made their home at Cranganore.

Simplicity of dress is a characteristic feature of the people of Kerala. Their sense of cleanliness also makes an immediate impression on the visitor.

CULTURE

In literature, music and dance, architecture, painting and other forms of artistic expression, Kerala has significant achievements to its credit.

Malayalam is the regional language. It has a rich literature. The special feature of the language, namely, its high content of Sanskrit, has made its vocabulary extensive and flexible. Malayalam literature had its rich flowering in Ezhuthachan (16th century) who is considered to be the greatest Malayalam poet. His translations of the *Ramayana*, the *Mahabharata* and the *Bhagavata* are works of great beauty and devotional value. Another great poet was Kunchan Nambiar. Recognised as the people's poet, his rich compositions began a new mode of poetry used for the dance recital, Tullal. The Kathakali dramas written by famous poets also form an important part of the Malayalam literature. Malayalam is making progress in all important literary forms. Kerala has had a long and living tradition of Sanskrit which has been a basic factor in India's unity.

Kerala has made unique contributions to the dance traditions of India. Kudiattam, which represents the first attempt at Sanskrit drama in India, is still staged. Krishnayattam is a devotional dance-drama on the life of Sri Krishna. Both these have influenced the classical dance, Kathakali.



Kathakali: Kerala is the home of the famous Kathakali dance. A Kathakali play is a ballet or dance-drama, based on episodes from the epics, the *Ramayana* and the *Mahabharata*. It employs an elaborate gesture-language called *mudras* for interpretation. These take the place of the spoken word.

The colourful make-up and the extravagant ensemble or costume may, at the first sight, look fantastic to the visitor. The factual colours indicate the type of characters, while the details, like accentuation of the eyes and eyebrows are designed to highlight expression. The harmony of expression and action



is achieved through the combination of a basic human mood and co-ordinated and rhythmic limb and body movements. The gorgeous costume helps to conjure up images of the supernatural and the heroic.

Add to these the soft flickering flame of the oil-fed metal lamp providing the only light, the sombre darkness around, the brightly painted curtain, the tall coconut palms and the starlit sky, and the elaborate interpretation and dance patterns of the mysterious figures in consonance with the leisurely music—and the effect is near-hypnotic.



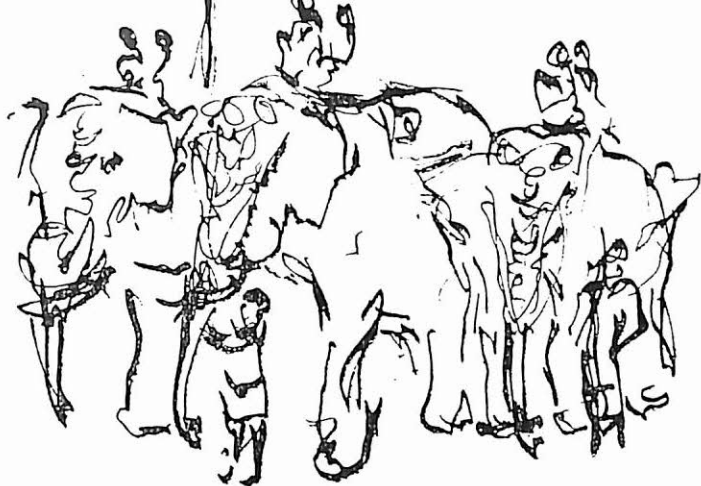


Kathakali owes its present efflorescence largely to the effort of Kerala's great poet, the late Vallathol. Its technique is being increasingly used in other Indian ballets. The chief centre in Kerala for teaching Kathakali is the Kerala Kalamandalam which also gives instruction in other dance forms like *Mohiniyattam* and *Ottan Tullal*. A visit to Kalamandalam should be a 'must' on the tourist's itinerary.

Mohiniyattam: It is the 'dance of the celestial temptress'. A solo dance, it combines the features of Bharata Natyam and Kathakali. Its mode is lyrical and has a sensuous element in its rendering.

Ottan Tullal: It is also a dance of quick movements, interpreting stories from the epics; gestures, though not as elaborate as in Kathakali, are used in the recital. The poetry is racy and scintillating, with frequent sallies at the Kerala society. It is a very popular dance, and invariably the recital is a part of temple festivals.

Kerala has its own musical style, derived from Kathakali music. It has also made notable contributions to the South Indian or Karnatic music. Swati Tirunal, a ruler of Travancore, is acknowledged as one of the outstanding composers in this style of music. His compositions in several Indian languages helped the ideal of the nation's cultural unity.



In the field of architecture, the Padmanabhapuram Palace (18th century), constructed in the Kerala style, is the finest of its kind. The Sri Padmanabhaswami-Temple at Trivandrum, the Vaikom and Guruvayur temples are outstanding examples of Kerala's traditional architecture. The tourist will look in vain for grandiose monuments in Kerala, but he will be struck by the interior elegance and beautiful carving of its structure, whether they be temples, palaces or houses of nobles.

Some of the excellent examples of the Kerala style of painting may be seen in the murals at the Mattanchery Palace, Cochin, and the Padmanabhapuram Palace. Among the great Indian painters of modern times, Raja Ravi Varma's position is unique for his distinct style.

Onam: The best season for a tourist to visit Kerala is during the Onam festival. The land is at its best then.

Onam is a community festival. It is celebrated in the bright month of *Chingom* (August-September) which heralds Kerala's new year. The monsoon rains have ceased, the sky regains its azure blue, the new moon shines with all its magnificence, nature has bloomed afresh and the air is filled with the fragrance of flowers and fruits. The granaries are full with a new harvest. The visitor will see in Onam the gaiety of a harvest festival.

Onam is celebrated for a week. At dawn, children run out in the sun to gather blossoms and return home with beautiful spoils to decorate the courtyards with floral patterns. Every house, washed clean and bright, is in a festival mood and is filled with the scent of festival clothes. For, Onam is celebrated to

greet the yearly visit from the neither world of the legendary king Mahabali, fabled for his prosperous rule. Feasting goes on for several days on a lavish scale. The air reverberates with song and dance and the laughter of happy children, who have a field-day. It is a season of gay abandon. In the evening, young girls in bright costumes and smart hair-styles perform the *Kaikkottikali* dance, weaving beautiful patterns of rhythms. At night, Kathakali dancers perform the classical dance on many a village green.

Yet, the greatest traditional attraction of Onam is the *Vallamkali* or the snake-boat race. It is a fabulous event so peculiar to Kerala. The race is held mainly at Aranmula and Kottayam. A number of boats are launched, each taking more than 100 oarsmen whose oars dip and flash on the floodwaters to the rhythm of drums, cymbals and racy songs and the cheering of vast crowds on the banks. It is a mammoth spectacle.

The Onam festival is fast assuming the character of an organised tourist festival, with dramas, ballets, water carnivals, and boat-race competitions at many places in the State.

Kerala has also several other festivals which are common to southern India. Among the various temple-festivals, the two at the Sri Padmanabhaswami Temple, Trivandrum, (March-April and October-November) and the *Poonam* festival at Trichur (April-May) are the more colourful.

CRAFTS

Kerala craftsmen offer many a souvenir to the tourist. He can choose among a wide range of fine creations. In their simplicity, beauty of designs and refinement of style, the crafts of Kerala are typical of the land and its culture.

The delicate ivory carvings are hardly surpassed. Using simple tools, the craftsmen, guided by a long tradition of skill, produce marvels in ivory. Some of these fancy objects have both decorative and utility value. The horn products like lamp-stands, paper weights and models of animals and birds are sleek and beautiful. Wood carving, an ancient art, follows Kerala's traditional temple and popular architecture. Out of rose-wood, teak, ebony, mahogany, sandalwood and cedar, which abound in Kerala's forests, are fashioned a large variety of articles, the more attractive among them being figurines of elephants and other denizens of the wilds, flower vases, caskets, boxes and wall panels.

Striking among the products peculiar to Kerala are characters from Kathakali, carved and coloured in accurate detail, which will attract attention in any drawing-room.

Famed for its coconut palms, Kerala produces unique objects with coconut shells. Among these are powder boxes, flower



vases, rose-water sprinklers, lamp-stands and cups and saucers. These are prized abroad. So is the case with articles made of screwpine mats. Specially prepared screwpine mats lend themselves to embroidery and sewing. Kerala also specialises in the making of the finest grass mats, and bamboo cane and *rattan* products.

The manufacture of metal mirrors is a unique art of Kerala, the secret of which is confined to a hamlet of Aranmula. Fascinating are the Kerala lamps, of which the one used in Kathakali is a magnum specimen.

Kerala's hand-woven textiles, noted for their simplicity and taste, even with the 'zari' or gold-lace borders, are equally useful as dress or furnishing fabrics.

The tourists can pick these either at the S.M.S.M. Institute at Trivandrum, the repository of Kerala's handicrafts, or the emporia at places like Quilon, Kottayam, Alleppey, Cochin, Cannanore and Trichur.

SPORTS

Sports in Kerala follow the pattern obtaining in other parts of India, the main popular games played being football, cricket, badminton, volley-ball and basketball. Facilities for sports such as golf-courses, tennis courts and fishing lodges are provided for the tourists. There are golf-courses at Trivandrum, Bolghatty Peermade and Munnar, and the tourist may contact the respective secretaries of the clubs for these facilities. An introduction through members or the travel agents in Kerala will be helpful in most cases. At Peermade and Munnar, the rolling hills form a fitting terrain and the high altitude and bracing climate add to the charm of these courses.

The lakes and lagoons over the entire coastline of southern and central Kerala offer excellent opportunities for fishing. Another favourite place for fishing is the Periyar Lake at the Wild Life Sanctuary. Fishing huts are also available within about an hour's cruise from the Aranya Nivas Hotel. Near the Malampuzha Dam, an aquarium, built in the shape of a fish, is an attraction. Another proposed project is a fish culture farm which will feed the lake and will transform it into a good ground for anglers.

The swimming pools at Trivandrum, Cochin (Malabar Hotel), Malampuzha, Neyyar Dam and other centres add to the possibilities for aquatic sports. But the picture-postcard beach at Kovalam, to the south of Trivandrum, is perhaps the best area for lovers of the brine. A ride on the catamarans provides all the thrills of surf-riding without the demands of caution and training. The catamaran, consisting of two or more logs of light wood, fastened together, is one of the safest of bets on water as it never does over-turn by itself. A recent introduction is the catamaran race from Trivandrum to Kovalam held as part of the Onam festival.

TRAVEL TIPS

The whole year, perhaps with the exception of the monsoon months of June, July and October, is favourable for a visit to Kerala. In common with the rest of the country, November and December are the coolest months in the year and March to May the hottest.

Cotton clothing will suffice in the plains, but some light woollens are necessary for excursions into the hills.

Though Malayalam is the language of the region, English is understood by most of the people the tourist is likely to come across, like the bus and taxi drivers, the hotel attendants and traders. The State Transport offers very efficient service throughout the State. The luxurious *deluxe* services traverse the length of the State from Trivandrum to Cannanore (mostly along the coastal towns). Taxis are plentiful in the larger towns and special tourist taxis are available with the travel agents and hotels.

The scheduled boat services and the special boats available on hire from the Tourist Department or the travel agents give ample scope to the tourist for cruising in the many lakes and canals. These are plentiful, especially around Cochin and Alleppey.

The tourist bungalows under the Department of Tourism offer good service in addition to the many hotels at or near all tourist centres. The ideal location of many of these tourist bungalows, in some old and picturesque palaces, add to their charm. At Quilon and Bolaghatty, for example, they overlook the vast lakes. Cochin has some of the most modern and well-appointed hotels in the State. Advance reservation at the tourist bungalows can be arranged through the respective managers or stewards.

Western and Indian-style cuisine are available at the leading hotels and all tourist Bungalows. It is advisable to give advance information on the choice.

PLACES OF INTEREST

TRIVANDRUM

Trivandrum, the State capital, is a suitable starting point for a tour of Kerala. The city has daily air services to Bangalore, Madras, Bombay, Coimbatore, Madura and Tiruchirapalli. It is connected by rail with Bangalore and Madras. The city is linked with all parts of South India by fine roads.

The visitor to Trivandrum will at once be struck by its beauty and freshness. The city lies on hillocks sloping down to the sea, and therefore washed clean during the rains. With its dense greenery broken by the gabled house-tops, its undulating roads, groves and parks, Trivandrum is a picturesque city. Viewed from the air, the scene merges with the green country, the city's buildings providing a contrast. Neatly dressed school-boys and girls, moving along the roads, add to the buoyancy of the growing city.

Trivandrum, the shorter form for 'Thiruvananthapuram' (Thiru-Anantha-Puram), means the abode of the Sacred Serpent Ananta, on which reclines God Vishnu, (also called Sri Padmanabha), to whom is also dedicated the Sri Padmanabhaswami Temple. Known as 'Anantasayanam' in ancient days, it has been a sacred place of the Hindus. In 1750, it became the capital of Travancore State when Raja Marthanda Varma shifted his royal seat from Padmanabhapuram (further south) to Trivandrum. To expiate the sins of his many wars, the king dedicated the whole State to Sri Padmanabha.

The tourist may begin with a visit to the shrine. Entry is restricted to Hindus, but it will be interesting to drive round the temple which is historically and architecturally the most important landmark in this city. Though of great antiquity, it is recorded that the shrine acquired its present imposing dimensions during the rule of King Marthanda Varma. The temple is a fine specimen of South Indian architecture. The *gopuram* (tower), rising in seven storeys, seen against the reflecting pool in front, provides a grand sight. Over three hundred granite pillars line its corridor and exquisite murals and ornamental structures adorn its walls.

Two festivals are annually celebrated in the temple, one in March-April and the other in October-November. Each lasts ten days, climaxed by an impressive procession of the deity, in full regalia, to the seashore. The festival spectacles include Kathakali dance and feats of skill.

The fort which surrounds the temple has several old palaces.

Among the modern buildings in Trivandrum are the Kaudiyar Palace, the Kanakakunnu Palace, the Observatory, the Secretariat, the Legislative Chambers, the Victoria Jubilee Hall and the University buildings and colleges. These impress the tourist with their predominantly indigenous designs and elegance, especially the medical college campus.

One of the most attractive structures in Trivandrum is the Napier Museum, a colourful turreted edifice standing on the crest of the popular Public Gardens near the Observatory Hill. It has a good collection of bronzes, sculptures, models and zoological specimens. A 300-year old temple car, a cluster of rare musical instruments of various periods and regions, the vivid model of a Nair joint family *tarawad* (house) etc., may be specially noticed. Around the Museum lie the zoological gardens, with a beautiful landscape garden. Though of modest proportions in its layout and in its attractions, it is one of the best in India.

Close to the Museum, in the same compound, is located the Chitralaya or the Art Gallery. It houses a rich and representative collection of paintings of the various Indian and East Asian schools. The former includes a large collection of Raja Ravi Varma's paintings and copies of Kerala's exquisite murals. Paintings of the Rajput, Mughal and Tanjore schools, reproductions of the murals of Ajanta, Bagh and Sittannaval are prominently on view. The collection of Eastern art include paintings from Japan and China, the ritual and dance masks of Java and Bali. The canvases of the Roerichs, vividly capturing the colours of the Himalayas, are also to be seen.

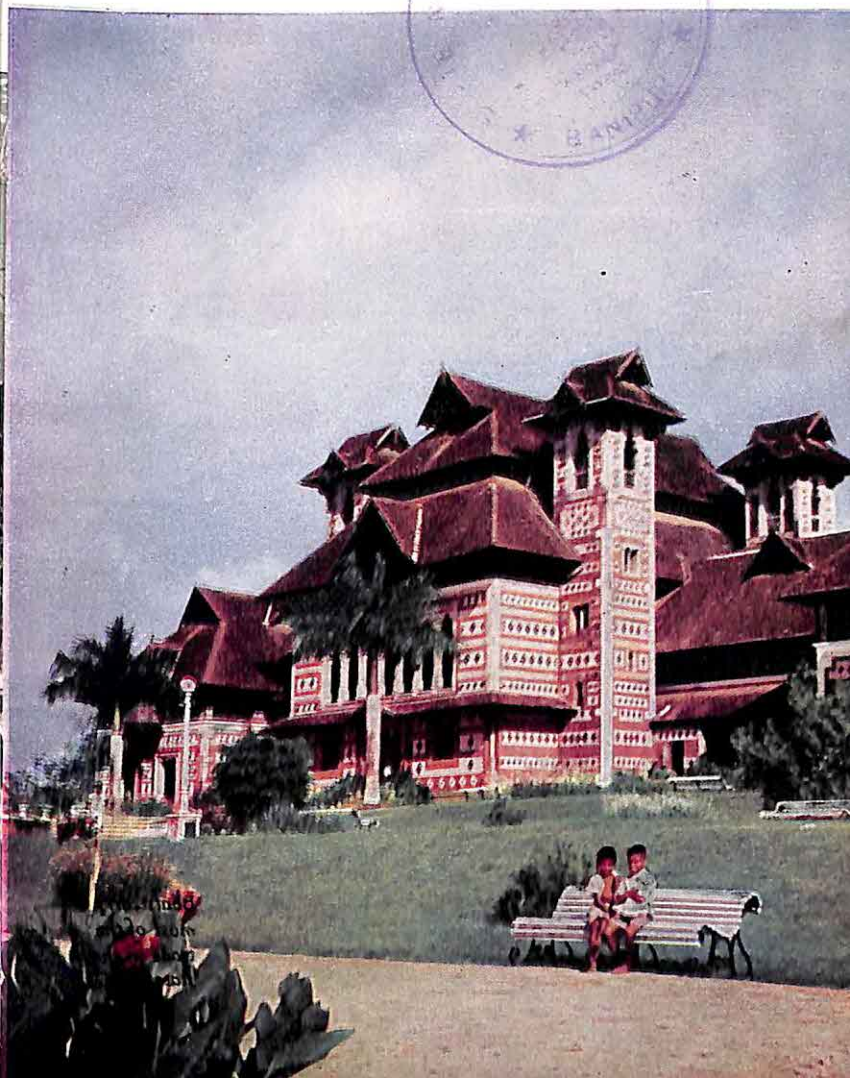
The other tourist attractions of Trivandrum are the Aquarium near the beach, the Observatory and the Oriental Manuscript Library. The Library has a large collection of ancient palm-leaf manuscripts.

The Veli Lagoon, ten minutes by car from the airport, will give the visitor a general idea of the famous backwaters of Kerala.

Apart from the Boat Club at Veli, there are a large number of institutions offering facilities for tennis, golf, badminton, swimming, rifle-shooting and cricket. Generally, temporary membership or permission to use the facilities could be arranged through the travel agents, international service clubs or the Tourist Office.

The Mascot Hotel, managed by the Tourist organisation of the State, offers excellent Western-style cuisine and living, with special air-conditioned accommodation and other facilities.

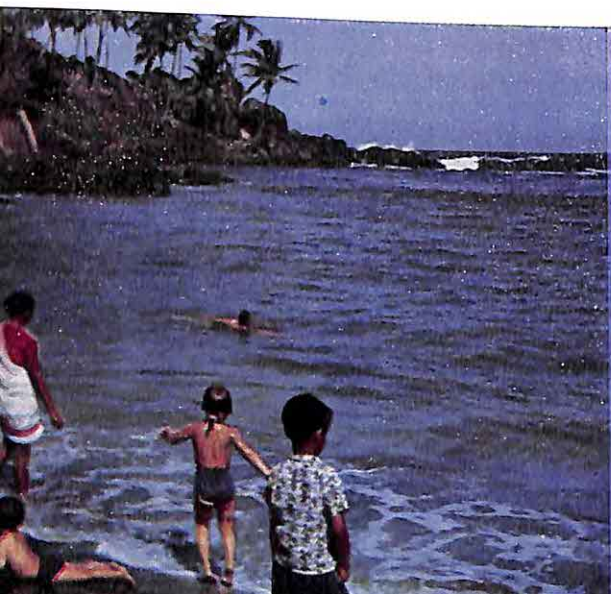
The Napier Museum at Trivandrum. The building itself is famed for its architectural excellence.





The Kovalam beach near Trivandrum with coconut palms jutting out towards the sea. Amidst the graceful palms is a hut for tourists.

The shallow sea provides an excellent beach at Kovalam



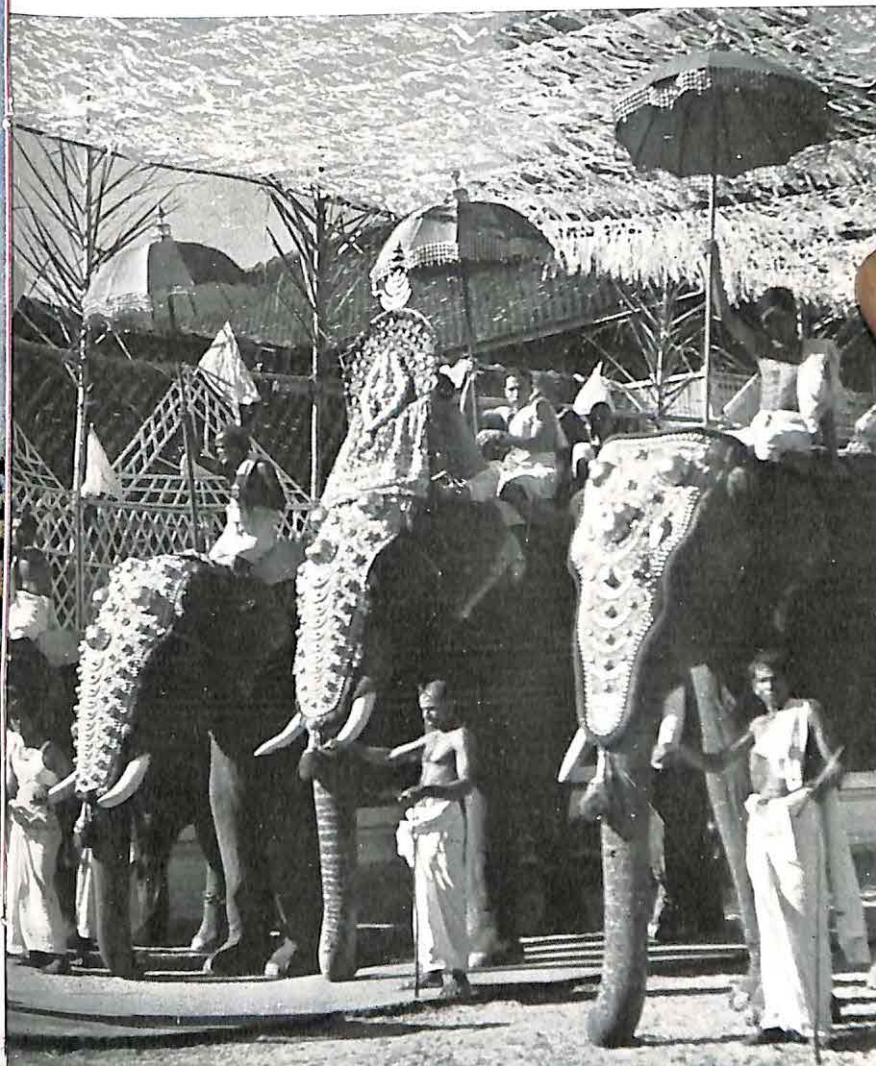
Boats carry most of the trade in the state of Kerala





The Santa Cruz Cathedral at Cochin. The inside walls and the ceiling of the cathedral are decorated with beautiful frescoes.

Caparisoned elephants standing ready to participate in a temple festival procession



Limited accommodation is also available at some of the clubs (e.g. Golf Club, Trivandrum Club) and this could also be arranged through the respective secretaries or the travel agents.

A private hotel near the Guest House, as also the Rest House and annexe, the Corporation Satrom adjacent to the railway station and, when the Assembly is not in session, the Legislators' Hostel near the University, are some of the other accommodation facilities. There are a number of Indian-style hotels, many quite close to the railway station.

While in Trivandrum, the tourist may plan enjoyable excursions to a few places around.

Aruvikara: The waterworks on the Karamana river is 16 km. (10 miles) from Trivandrum. It commands a view of beautiful scenery and picturesque landscape around. It is a picnic spot.

Neyyar: The site of the Neyyar dam has its gardens, swimming pool and rest house. The extensive lake, with its numerous isles, bays and spurs, lying against the southern low hills of the Western Ghats, provides leisurely boating and facilities for mountaineering on a modest scale.

Ponmudi: This hill station, 61 km. (37 miles) east of Trivandrum, is reached by a fine road. With an elevation of 912m. (3,000 ft.) it is a pleasant health resort. There are several tea and rubber estates around the place. The sanatorium at Ponmudi offers restful accommodation for visitors. Ponmudi is being further developed as a tourist centre.

Padmanabhapuram Palace: Fifty-three kilometres (33 miles) on the Trivandrum-Cape Comorin highway, with a slight detour (at Thuckalay town), lies the Padmanabhapuram Palace, the ancient seat of the Travancore rulers. The palace contains relics of antiquity having historical and artistic value. The earliest structure here has been dated as of the 13th century. The Council Chamber, the intricately designed corridors, the Mother Palace, and the Nritta Mandapa (Dance Hall) claim special attention in the complex of structures. The Dance Hall, with its beauty of design, unity of conception and its austerity of decorative details, will give the visitor an aesthetic thrill. The spell of this enthralling structure, which auspiciously faces an exquisite recessed shrine is such as will move a dancer into ecstasies. It is a real gem of Kerala's architecture. The incredible smoothness of its floor and the feeling of cool comfort it creates make one marvel at the architect's skill. Adjoining the structure lies a latticed chamber for royal ladies to watch unseen the dance and music performances.

The ancient palace at Padmanabhapuram. Now in Madras State, Padmanabhapuram was the capital of the powerful Venad or Travancore kingdom of south Kerala



A mural in the Padmanabhapuram Palace

The greatest attraction of the palace lies in its numerous multi-coloured paintings, depicting scenes from the epics. Executed in the 17th and 18th centuries, these paintings are truly remarkable for their fine technique and harmony of composition. Among the more notable murals are 'Anantashayanam' (Sri Padmanabha reclining on Serpent Ananta), Lord Ganesa, and the Dance of Siva (Nataraja).



*Sunrise on the
Bay of Bengal*

Cape Comorin : A further drive of 33 kilometres (21 miles) from the detour on the main road takes the tourist to Kanyakumari or Cape Comorin (in Madras State), the land's end of India, where one can watch the sun rising or setting on the ocean. At Cape Comorin, the tourist can stay in comfort either in the Kerala House or the Tourist Bungalows and Rest Houses owned by the Madras State Government.

KOVALAM-ON-THE-SEA

If, on arrival in Trivandrum, the tourist would prefer to stay away from the city in order to relax fully, he has his ideal choice at Kovalam-on-the-sea, with its bath-house which has a few

*A man climbing
a tall coconut
palm*





A panoramic view of the Trivandrum beach

rooms for overnight stay. This famous bathing bay lies but $11\frac{1}{2}$ km. (7 miles) away, and in a few minutes of arrival in Trivandrum, one can relax comfortably in the bath-house or take a refreshing bath in the cool waters of the blue sea. The short excursion which lies through groves of palms, will in itself be a refreshing drive after the travel.

Kovalam is a sheltered bay and is endowed with unusual natural beauty. Framed by a rugged promontory of rocks

Intruding into the sea on one side and by the long, gently curved beachline fringed heavily by the swaying coconut palms, the panoramic view of the bay extending to the ocean-line and the sky is infinitely picturesque. At night when the moon and the stars pour their soft radiance on the rippling waves, the sea-pool presents an unforgettable sight.

But Kovalam has more than natural enchantment to attract the hard-boiled tourist. The massive adjoining rocks have made it a safe sea-pool free from high waves and surges. As one enters the bay, the floor slopes as gently as in an artificial pool; one can draw the line and decide to go no further. And the tides in the bay that burst on the rocks and the sands ebb softly, so that the waters lie safe for seabathing even for a novice. Catamarans, a tie-up of light wood, can be hired by swimmers who wish to go into deeper waters. Fishermen will joyfully row visitors, if they desire, as far into the sea as they wish for a reasonable remuneration. The ride will be an experience in itself. Angling at the bay will be handsomely rewarding. And back from these pursuits, nothing will be more refreshing than the cool, delicious, tender coconut which the gay, sportive fisherboys dashing up the palms will pluck and bring for the asking.

Thus endowed, Kovalam has already earned fame as one of the finest bathing resorts in the world. The visitors' book is crammed with excited praise for this 'Brighton' of India. 'A clean and lovely beach', 'God's own creation', 'Exotic', are some of the tributes paid to Kovalam. An international caravan which found it 'more than a dream' extended its one-day scheduled stay at Kovalam to a five-day halt.

When the plans for making Kovalam an integrated sea-resort are fully carried out, this wonderful beach will get pride of place amongst the loveliest beaches in the world. The plans include laying a promenade and road along the sea-waters from the airport, and tourist 'huts' on the nearby rocks where a palace is being converted for the use of tourists. As the beach extends along many miles of curving bay, the chances of it getting overcrowded with sun-tanning tourists, as at Miami or Brighton, are few. At Kovalam one will ever have enough sun, sand and sea to enjoy.

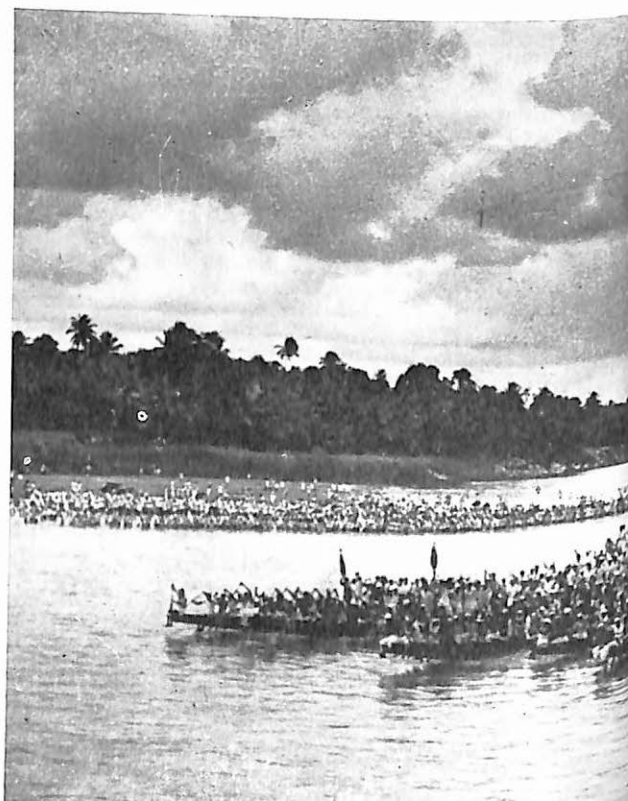
VARKALA

A drive of 51 km. (32 miles) from Trivandrum along the road to Quilon in the north, with a slight detour to the left, takes the tourist to Varkala. From the tall massive cliffs along the seacoast trickle out rich mineral springs. A sea-bath followed by a fresh water wash in the springs is very exhilarating. The beautiful hills, and the long water-tunnels linking the place with the lakes and canals of Kerala are among its scenic attractions.

The temple of Janardana (Vishnu) at Varkala is one of the famous centres of Hindu pilgrimage in India. The place has also importance as the *samadhi* (place of eternal rest) of Sri Narayana Guru atop a high hill called Sivagiri commanding a wide view of the surrounding country. Sivagiri also has a fine temple and the *ashram* established by the Guru. Near Varkala may be seen the fortress of Anjengo, built by the early English settlers. Varkala has a Tourist Bungalow which provides a comfortable halting place for pilgrims.

QUILON

Quilon, 19 km. (12 miles) beyond, has many claims on the tourists' attention. It lies on the Ashtamudi Lake (lake with eight creeks), heavily fringed with coconut groves.

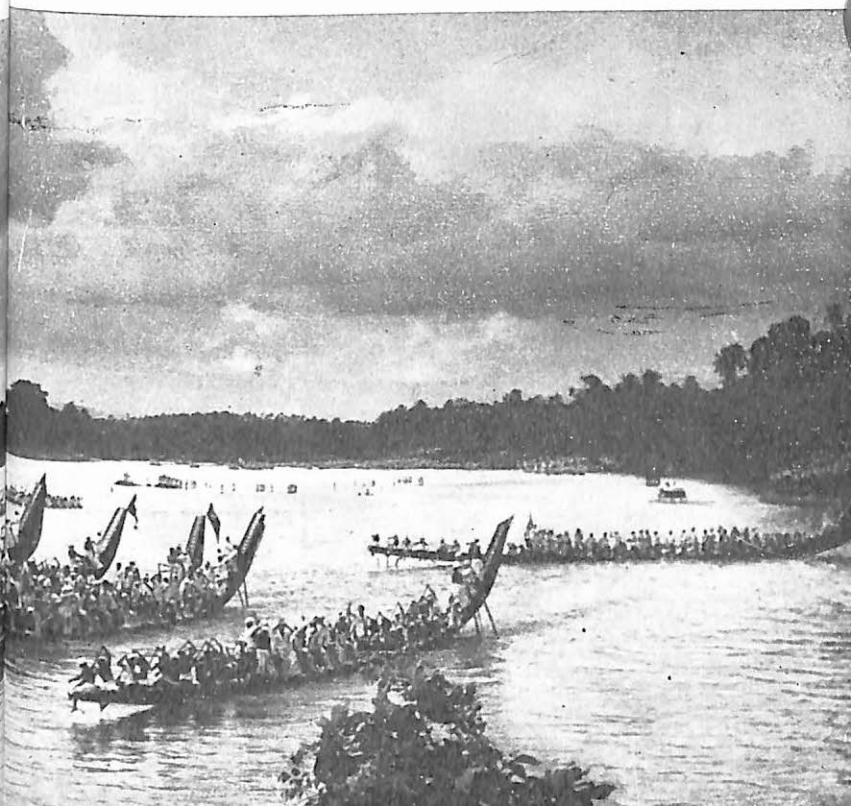


A prosperous commercial town, Quilon had an eventful past. In ancient times, Phoenician, Persian, Arab, Greek, Roman and Chinese ships touched the port. During the period of the Tang dynasty, Chinese trade settlements flourished here, and during the reign of Kubla Khan, the king of Quilon exchanged envoys with China. Exquisite chinaware, some of them very beautiful creations, have been discovered in this area.

Quilon figured prominently in the early history of Christianity in India.

It was in Quilon, in 1330, that Friar Jerdanus was consecrated Bishop of the first Roman Catholic 'see' in India.

The snake-boat race on the Pampa river during Onam festival



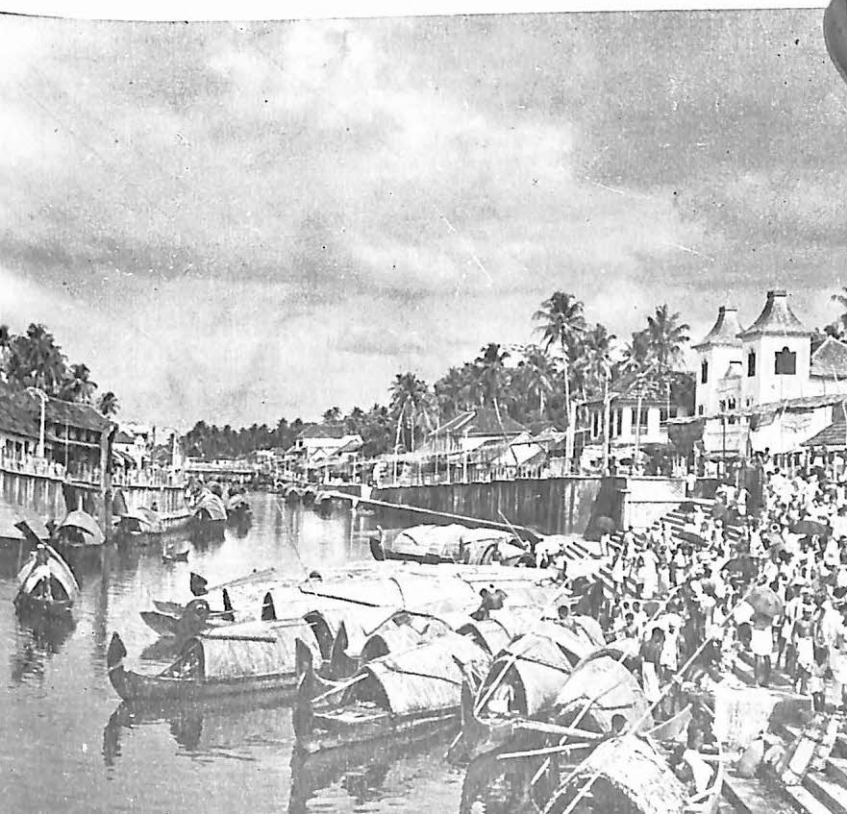


*Country craft moored
in the backwaters*

Before its surrender to the Raja of Travancore in 1742, Quilon had its independent dynastic history. The Thevally Palace, one of its ancient and famous landmarks, has been submerged by the Arabian Sea.

For the tourist coming from Trivandrum, Quilon is the beginning of the magnificent backwaters of Kerala. From the Neendakara bridge, about 16 km. (10 miles) from here, the backwaters offer a grand spectacle. The tourist will count a trip by motor-launch from Quilon to Alleppey or Ernakulam through the backwaters as one of his rare experiences. The local boat club could, on request, arrange boating on Lake Ashtamudi.

A busy canal crowded with country craft



Quilon's growing industrial complex includes factories for the production of ceramics, coir, tiles, aluminium. Quilon is also the home of Kerala's cashew industry, and the tourist will find it interesting to watch the processing of these tasty nuts. The Indo-Norwegian mechanised fishing project, located at Chavara, 10 kilometres away (six miles), is also worth a visit.

If a picnic is desired, there is Thangasseri, 3.2 km. (2 miles) from Quilon, with a massive lighthouse, old Dutch, Portuguese and English cemeteries and remnants of a fort.

The Tourist Bungalow, formerly a palace, is one of the largest and most attractive in Kerala. It overlooks the expanse of the backwaters, and has extensive grounds surrounding it. A good boat club is located here.

Alleppey, on the Vembanad Lake, can be reached from Quilon either along the coastal road—90 km. (56 miles)—or by boat. The latter journey by a scheduled boat, which takes 9 hours, will take the visitor through some of the most extensive stretches of Kerala's backwaters. It will bring to view a succession of landscapes of immense beauty.

ALLEPPEY

Alleppey has a large network of canals which, cutting through the town, provide its lifeline. Kerala's famous coir products which find their way to foreign markets, are made in the many factories here and are shipped from this port.

One of the grandest sights offered by Alleppey is the mammoth annual snake-boat race held in the backwaters on its outskirts. It is held in the latter half of August, sometimes coinciding with India's Independence Day celebrations. The snake-boat resembles a huge snake, with its hood raised above water. With over a hundred oarsmen, it is the most impressive in the regatta. The chief event is the race for the Prime Minister's Trophy, donated by the late Jawaharlal Nehru after seeing the colourful event. Tourists are given special facilities to have a grandstand view of the race.

The Government Rest House situated on the sea-side or the New Rest House (P.W.D.) are suitable for overnight stay.

ALLEPPEY-KOTTAYAM

The visitor who has, by this time, become familiar with the backwaters may venture to travel from Alleppey to Kottayam by boat. Or, he may drive along the new canal road linking with the Trivandrum-Kottayam highway. The cruise by boat will be more leisurely and a more pleasant experience. And among the scheduled cruises, this will be the shortest, the distance of 29 km. (18 miles) being covered in three hours.

The journey is through the Vembanad Lake and canals. During the rainy season, the whole region looks as one sheet of water known as the Kuttanad Lake spread over 777 sq. km. (300 sq. miles), its bottom lying several feet below the sea level. Journey at that time will be difficult and may be avoided. Yet, after the rains, it becomes the scene of a precarious enterprise, for portions of the lake ringed by embankments are used for paddy cultivation. The expanse of the waters, which at places stretch as far as the eyes can reach, is relieved only by the green patches of rice fields and the small islands of vegetation dominated by the palms. Innumerable canoes and service boats pass by, and cargo boats with their big sails spread wide move in all directions. On a cloudless night, the panorama presented to the traveller from the deck of his boat is supremely beautiful. A myriad fireflies, with their weird twinkle, light up the coast-line, fringed with luxuriant vegetation, while the starry heavens reflected in the blue, limpid water below make the fairy scene complete.

PERIYAR WILD LIFE SANCTUARY

When the tourist hits the road for the Wild Life Sanctuary at Thekkady, cradled in the Western Ghats, he is out for one of the highlights of his itinerary. The pleasant comfort of the cool hills, the luxurious cruise on boats and the thrill of watching a variety of wild animals await the visitor.

The sanctuary is unique in India. For, here the visitor has the choicest mode of conveyance—cruise by a motor-launch for watching wild life such as herds of elephants, bison and other animals as they come to the lake for a bath or drink. A lucky tourist may even see a swimming tiger at close quarters from the absolute security of the boat.

The sanctuary lies between 914 m. and 1828 m. (3,000 ft. to 6,000 ft.) above sea level on the Periyar Lake in the cool hills of the Western Ghats. The lake, formed by a dam across the Periyar river, is spread over 26 sq. km. (10 sq. miles) with its curves, spurs and bays. The area of the sanctuary around it is 777 sq. km. (300 sq. miles). Its dense tropical jungles provide a natural home for animals like the elephant, bison, wild boar, sambar, antelope, tiger, leopard and sloth bear.

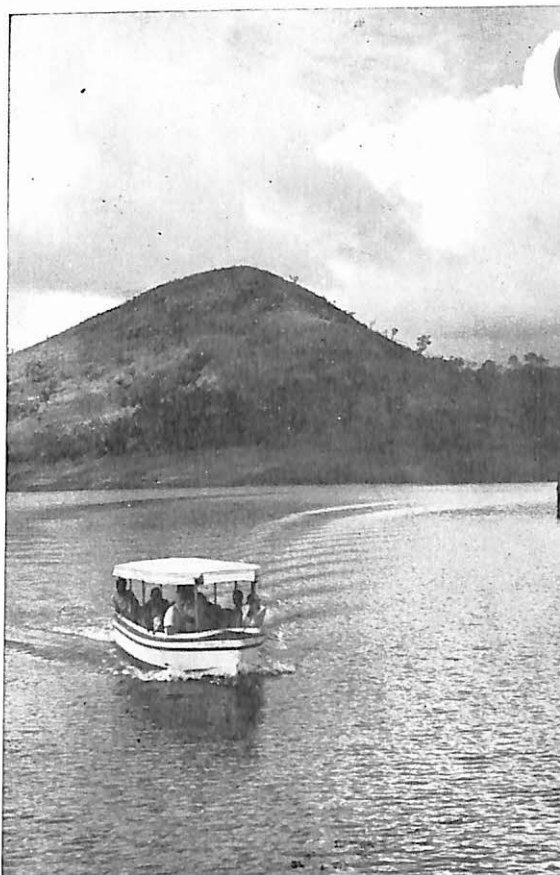
The starting point of the exciting journey to Thekkady is Kottayam, the clearing point of Kerala's famous hill products. The distance between Kottayam and Thekkady is 121 km. (75 miles). The tourist can also proceed to Thekkady directly from Trivandrum and Cochin by road (272 km. or 170 miles, and 192 km. or 120 miles). The Trivandrum-Cochin rail route also touches Kottayam. From Madura (in Madras State), which has air connections, the tourist can reach Thekkady after a drive of



The hills of the deep-wooded High Ranges

144 km. (90 miles). Kottayam, with its excellent tourist bungalow atop a hill, provides the tourist a fine midway halt before the climb to Periyar.

The drive from Kottayam is itself a thrilling journey. The ascending road lies through rich plantations of pepper, rubber and, higher up, tea and cardamom. As the road climbs along the folds of hills, the rising elevation enfolds a vast expanding amphitheatre formed by the sloping wilds of the Ghats. The beauty of the massed scenery rising darkly to lose itself amidst the thick, sprawling clouds of white is breath-taking. Every



*A cruise in the
Periyar Lake*

bend of the spiralling road brings in view a fresh panorama of scenic glory. For a brief stay or night-halt, Peermade, 75 km. (47 miles) from Kottayam, provides a Tourist Bungalow, a Rest House and a private Western-style hotel. It is a tea plantation centre. The Peermade Club, with its golf course, lies a few miles off the main road.

A lone tusker squirting water over its face — Periyar Wild Life Sanctuary



A drive of about thirty-two kilometres (20 miles) takes the tourist to Thekkady. He can drive straight to Aranya Nivas, a Western-style hotel managed by the State Tourist Department. Reservation can be made direct or through travel agents. If, on the other hand, the visitor desires to get into the real spirit of the place, the choice is the Edappalayam Tourist Bungalow located right inside the sanctuary and reached by boat from the Aranya Nivas Hotel. It would be necessary to reach the Hotel jetty by 5 p.m. to be ferried over the Periyar Lake. The stay at Edappalayam, ringed by a protective ditch, will be a memorable experience, for here at night you have a chance of seeing wild animals across the ditch. For economy-minded tourists, groups and students, the Economy Class Tourist Bungalow, an annexe close to the Aranya Nivas Hotel, will be a suitable place to stay at.

Scheduled cruises by the launch 'Periyar' of 30-seat capacity operate three times a day during week-ends. On other days, the boat can be hired privately. There are a few more launches available on hire. Canoes could also be hired by those who prefer to row on their own. Each scheduled cruise takes three hours. The best part of the day for boating is either early morning or dusk, when the animals come out with their young ones.

Periyar has a long season. November to June is the best period to visit the sanctuary. Summer (Feb. to June) will be ideal. For, as the water-holes within the forests dry up, the animals are forced to come to the open lake when the tourist can watch and photograph large herds gambolling and grazing along the banks. The animals are abundant, but very often the alert eyes of the boat crew are needed to spot them unless they are on low slopes or fringes of the water as the boat is coaxed along. The elephants are not shy of visitors and can be watched for any length of time for their habits and endearing antics—a mother pushing a reluctant youngster into the cold waters for a ducking, the tall elder breaking the tender shoots of a tree beyond the reach of an infant, the mother suckling the young. The bison, however, are a wary lot, often retreating into the undergrowth on approach. The elusive tiger also might be seen occasionally. Every turn and bend in the fringes of the lake holds rich promise for the visitors. Those who stay at Thekkady for a few days can make use of the special observation posts put up at a few strategic points.

Wild life is not the only attraction of Thekkady. Apart from a quiet holiday on the hills, it offers unique opportunities for fishing. Furnished fishing huts are available at three places, Thannikkudy, Mullakkudy and Manakkavala. These have

also observation posts close by to watch wild animals. Lodging charges at these places are very nominal.

The Periyar Wild Life Sanctuary, which is already on the world's tourist map, is being further developed as an integrated tourist centre. The additional amenities planned include an airstrip and more accommodation.

MUNNAR

If the tourist desires an alternative hill retreat, Munnar in the high ranges is the right choice. The hill station is reached from Kottayam (148 km. or 92 miles), and from Ernakulam (139 km. or 86 miles). Its elevation of 1,524 metres (5,000 ft.) gives it a cool, bracing climate. Here the tourist has an opportunity to look at Kerala's dollar-earning plantations, mainly of tea, which are concentrated in and around this place. A pioneering power-development project, the Pallivasal Hydro-electric Works is located here.

The Tourist Bungalow in the town, though of modest dimensions, offers an excellent location and good service.

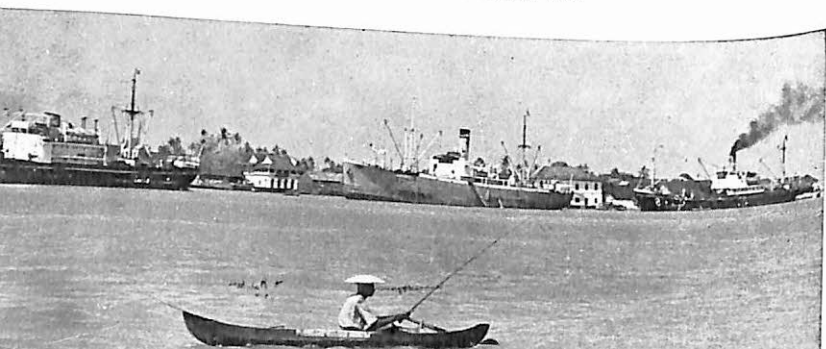
COCHIN

Cochin can be reached by road from Kottayam (67 km. or 42 miles), or from Alleppey along the coast (63 km. or 39 miles). It is also connected with Kottayam on the Trivandrum-Ernakulam rail route.

A tourist visiting places in Kerala may as well begin his itinerary at Cochin which, like Trivandrum, is connected by air and rail with all the major cities of India.

Cochin was a major scene of European colonial rivalry and finally, when it passed into the hands of the British, they built

Go fishing in a country craft near the Cochin Port



here a fort, buildings and churches. Hence the name 'Fort Cochin'. In common parlance, 'Cochin' covers not only Fort Cochin, but the whole complex of islands and Ernakulam on the mainland.

Cochin is one of the most picturesque places in Kerala. It has a beautiful all-weather harbour, and a grand seascape. The lagoons and wooded islands of its backwaters invest it with great beauty.

From early times, Cochin (together with Cranganore nearby) had cultural and trade relations with the outside world. The Chinese carried on a flourishing trade here, being among the earliest foreign settlers on this coast. The Chinese fishing nets, which are still seen in the Cochin backwaters, make an interesting sight.

Cochin has several attractions for the tourist.

MATTANCHERRY AND FORT COCHIN

Mattancherry has an ancient Jewish synagogue, where the visitor can see the form of worship as in the days of the prophets. A Jewish colony, which had its beginning in pre-Christian times, flourished here. The Jews found welcome in this land of magnanimous rulers. The synagogue was built in 1568 but was destroyed by the Portuguese in 1662 and rebuilt in 1664. The main items of interest inside the synagogue are the Great Scrolls of the Old Testament, the copper plates on which the grants of privileges made by the rulers were recorded, and the exquisite Chinese hand-painted tiles.

'The Dutch Palace' in Mattancherry was built by the Portuguese and presented to the Rajah of Cochin in 1555 A.D. It was here that the Papal Bull of Alexander Borgia giving the western hemisphere to Spain and the eastern hemisphere to Portugal was read. The Dutch, on defeating the Portuguese, modified the structure, hence its name. The coronation ceremony of the Cochin rajahs was traditionally held in its central hall called the Coronation Hall.

In the adjoining rooms are large-size panels of 17th century murals, depicting scenes from the epic *Ramayana*. Among the others, those depicting Lord Krishna and God Siva attract special attention. These paintings are works of great beauty. A rather unique feature here of special interest to students of the arts is the various stages of mural painting as practised then. Some of the panels have been left unfinished in different stages of work.

Fort Cochin has two major attractions. One is the St. Francis Church, built originally by the Portuguese in 1510.

It is believed to be the first Church built by the Europeans in India. It is a link in the European colonial history of India. The body of Vasco da Gama (who landed in India in 1498) lies buried here, the place being marked by a tomb-stone. Very close to this protected monument stands the Santa Cruz Church, a modern pinnacled cathedral containing some beautiful paintings.

WILLINGDON ISLAND

This man-made island was created with the material dredged while deepening the Cochin port. The airport and rail terminus lie on the island which connects Cochin harbour with the mainland by a bridge. Frequent ferry services ply over the lake. The island serves as a clearing house for all the cargo traffic meant for the Cochin port.

BOLGHATTY PALACE

This peaceful, quiet Tourist Bungalow is an ideal place for the visitor's leisurely stay. It lies on the Bolghatty Island between the mainland and the harbour-mouth. The palace was built by the Dutch in 1744, but later became the seat of the British Resident. Lying amidst singularly beautiful surroundings, this old building is very attractive. The bright paintings on the wooden lintels in vegetable colours are as old as the building which is a blend of the Kerala and the Dutch styles of architecture. Its massive walls and pillars, and the furniture made after European models of quaint shape may be noticed. Pierre Loti, a French traveller who stayed here nearly a century ago, called it the 'enchanted home of the sleeping beauty'. Around the palace lies the golf course. It has at its disposal motor launches which can be hired for excursions on the backwaters.

Near Bolghatty lies another island, Vallarpadam. The old church here, dedicated to St. Mary, is a place of Christian pilgrimage.

ERNAKULAM

Situated on the mainland facing the harbour, Ernakulam was the capital of the former Cochin State. The city provides a vantage point from where one can take the whole of Cochin, with its several islands and sheets of backwaters in one sweep of the eye. The scene at night when the harbour, the vessels and the isles are lit and the myriad lights are reflected in the rippling waters is fascinating. The city itself has a fine setting. It has a number of temples and churches. The week-long festival at the Siva temple in January is a colourful sight. At Ernakulam, the

visitor has an opportunity of seeing the Kathakali dance, which is frequently performed here.

Twenty-six kilometres (16 miles) away, at Kanjiramuttam, there is a beautiful mosque. Ten kilometres (6 miles) away is Tripunithura, seat of the Cochin royal family, with a grand temple and palaces. About 8 km (5 miles) further east is Chottanikkara, noted for its Bhagavati temple. At Mulanthuruthi, 20 km. (12 miles) from Ernakulam, there is a 700-year old church containing many frescos.

CRANGANORE

While in Cochin, the visitor may plan a very enjoyable excursion to Cranganore, lying in the interior, and important as the cradle of Kerala's early history. The distance is 35 km (22 miles) and a conducted cruise will take over three hours. The motor-boat passes by banks smothered in green, interspersed with homesteads and fishing villages in the countryside which has a very charming appearance. The tourist will be well advised to carry with him his lunch packet and a supply of drinking water.

Though now an ordinary town, Cranganore (Muziris) was, in olden times, the premier seaport on India's west coast. It was the capital of Cheraman Perumal, Emperor of Kerala, whose famed palace Allal Perumkovilakam was situated near the great pagoda at Tiruvanchikulam. Muziris is mentioned by Pliny and in *Periplus*, both of the first century, the latter mentioning it 'as abounding in ships sent there with cargoes from Arabia and Greece'. Here 'large ships of the Yavanas, bringing gold, came splashing the white foam on the waters of the river Periyar and returned laden with pepper'. St. Thomas is believed to have landed at Muziris in 52 A.D. A monument marks the spot. A relic of the saint is kept in the church built in his memory. The 'Cheramanparambu' where the emperor's palace stood, the ancient Tiruvanchikulam temple, the Bhagavati temple, the Portuguese fort and the old mosque, very similar in appearance to a Hindu temple and believed to be the first mosque built in India, are all situated nearby and are worth a visit.

ALWAYE

At Alwaye, 23 km (14 miles) from Ernakulam, the visitor gets an opportunity to see a few major industrial plants of modern Kerala. The more prominent among these are the factories for fertilisers and chemicals, glass, aluminium, rayons, insecticides, tyres, and the rare earths plant. The rare earths plant processes monazite sands found on Kerala's beaches, which are a rich source of radioactive thorium power invaluable for India's atomic programme.

Alwaye lies on the Periyar river, the longest river in Kerala. In the hot humid months from March to May, it serves as a popular summer resort. The Tourist Bungalow, formerly the Maharaja's palace, lies on the river, with excellent ghats for bathing and swimming. If the tourist visits Alwaye in December, he can witness the grand Hindu festival of Shivaratri held on the expansive sands across the river.

KALADI

On the road from Alwaye to Trichur lies Kaladi (10 km. or 6 miles), famous as the birthplace of Sankaracharya, the great Hindu saint and philosopher (eighth century). It lies on the Periyar river. Two shrines stand on the spot, one dedicated to the saint, and the other to Sarada personified as Goddess of Learning. The Sri Ramakrishna Adwaita Ashram is also located here.

*Monasteries at the birth-place of Sankaracharya,
the great Indian philosopher-saint*





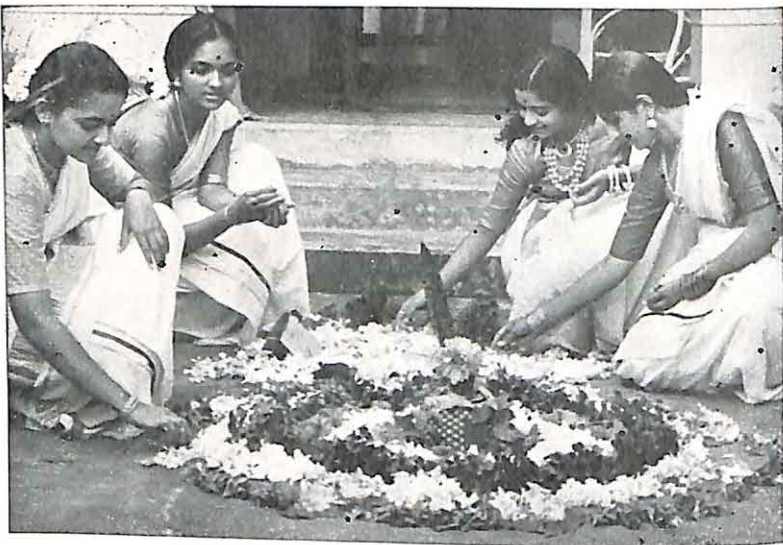
The Vadakkunathan Temple

TRICHUR

A drive of another 45 km. (28 miles) takes the tourist to Trichur. It is also reached from Alwaye by rail. The ancient Vadakkunathan Temple dominates the town, and on its extensive *maidan* is celebrated the famous *Pooram* festival (April-May). Arrays of decorated, caparisoned elephants, spectacular processions and fireworks mark the festival which, in its colour and extravagance, is unique among Kerala's temple festivals. The other attractions of Trichur are the zoo, noted for its reptile house, and the museum. The visitor can stay in comfort at the Tourist Bungalow (Ramanilayam), formerly a palace.

If the tourist desires to stay out of the town, he has two choices. One is Peechi, 23 km (14 miles) from Trichur, which is the site of a modern irrigation project and is ideal for holidaying. The Project Bungalow provides good accommodation.

The other is Guruvayur (29 km. or 18 miles) which is famous throughout India for its ancient shrine of Lord Krishna. Here, during the annual temple festival (February-March), is performed the *Krishnayattam* dance, which is the precursor of the Kathakali dance. Guruvayur has a Tourist Bungalow.



*Girls arranging floral patterns (attappu) in their
frontyard during the Onam festival*



*A girl in traditional Kerala
costume going to the temple
with offerings on the dawn
of the Onam day*



Scene from a Kathakali dance. The enchanting landscape of Kerala provides the backdrop.

Typical Kathakali characters in action on the stage





The gardens at Malampuzha Dam in Kerala



Characters of Kathakali, the famous pantomime dance-drama of Kerala

KERALA KALAMANDALAM

Kerala Kalamandalam, the Arts Academy, located at Cheruthuruthi should have a high claim on the visitor's time. The Arts Centre lies amidst sylvan surroundings on the bank of the Bharatapuzha, about three kilometres (2 miles) from the Shoranur railway junction. The place can be reached from Trichur by rail (34 km. or 21 miles) and also by road (32 km. or 20 miles).

Founded by the late poet Vallathol, the Kalamandalam has been the chief centre of the renaissance of Kathakali dance. It imparts instruction in music, drama and dance, with emphasis on Kathakali, Mohiniyattam and Tullal. Here, tourists who have seen Kathakali abroad or in cities outside Kerala have an opportunity to look closely at this unique dance form in its native beauty. It is ideal to make your visit early in the morning, when the teen-age dancers are put through their paces and through the various disciplines. The rigours of the preparation might appeal, but there is no compromise in the creation of a dancer called upon to communicate ideas and express himself poetically without speaking a word. On request, special demonstrations of the techniques may be possible. If a dance is scheduled for the

night, it will be worthwhile to watch the rendering of the dance in the solitary light of the tall, metal lamp and in the vibrant rural setting which form its *milieu*. A quiet look into the green room, where 'heroes' and 'gods' are fashioned, will be interesting. Watch the silence, the muteness, but for an occasional communicating gesture; for all else is understood as an unspoken convention. The stillness of the preparation, that takes hours, helps to create the mood, the transformation. There is at present a P.W.D. Rest House close to the Arts Centre.

MALAMPUZHA

The site of Malampuzha river project is one of those spots which a tourist desires for rest and a tranquil holiday. The road from Trichur, passing Cheruthuruthi, takes one to Malampuzha (83 km or 52 miles). Tourists from Coimbatore can reach the spot by a fine road, via Palghat town (62 km. or 39 miles).

The site lies in the bowl formed by the lower hills of the Western Ghats. The extensive lake created by a high dam on the river and by the mountain spurs is ideal for a cruise, for which ample facilities exist. Many varieties of fish, like katla and mirror carp, are specially reared to add to the delights of the cruise in the reservoir. The spillway opposite runs into an extremely beautiful, terraced garden, covered with deep green turf, flowerbeds and exquisite statuettes. When lit up at night, the scene, watched from the Tourist Bungalow on the high rocks, is enchanting. Generally the gardens are illuminated on week-ends. However, on any other evening it can be arranged through the Executive Engineer on payment of a prescribed fee. The site has also a swimming pool with crystal-clear water and high diving stages and an aquarium.

KOZHIKODE

From Malampuzha, one can go to Kozhikode either by road (145 km. or 90 miles) or by rail from Shoranur (87 km. or 54 miles). Formerly known as Calicut, Kozhikode is famous in history as the capital of the Zamorin rajahs. Again, it was here that Vasco da Gama landed in 1498. It was one of the great ports on the west coast and is a port of call for cargo-steamers even today. A big centre of the timber industry, it has a busy boat-building yard. Kozhikode has a number of temples, mosques and churches, some of which have historical importance. The word 'calico' comes from 'Calicut', which was once a great centre for cotton cloth. Besides a fine Tourist Bungalow, on

West Hill, Kozhikode has a few good Indian and Western-style hotels.

CANNANORE

This seaside resort is reached from Kozhikode by rail (90 km. or 56 miles) or road (87 km. or 54 miles). The town offers a cooler climate with an unimpeded flow of the sea breeze. Cannanore was the capital of the Kolathiri rajah, chief rival of the Zamorin in Malabar. It was also a well-known port familiar to the Arabs and the Persians. It has an old fort built by the Portuguese. Cannanore has a Tourist Bungalow.

SULTAN'S BATTERY

At a height of 912 m. (3,000 ft.) above sea level, Sultan's Battery (97 km. or 60 miles from Kozhikode) nestles among the famous coffee producing hills of Wynad and Lakkidi. A few miles from here is Perumanam Kotta where the Pazhasi Raja had his stronghold till the fort was captured by the British in 1805. There is a Tourist Bungalow here which provides a comfortable halting place for visitors on their way to Mysore, by road.



APPENDICES

BANGALORE—MYSORE—BELUR—HALEBID— SRAVANA BELGOLA

General Information :

	<i>Area</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Altitude</i>
Bangalore	90.65 sq. km. (35 sq. miles)	12,08,248	920 m. (3,021 ft.)
Mysore	38.84 sq. km. (15 sq. miles)	2,53,524	770 m. (2,525 ft.)
Belur	2.84 sq. km. (1.10 sq. miles)	7,959	960 m. (3,150 ft.)
Halebid	1.29 sq. km. ($\frac{1}{2}$ sq. mile)	3,000	960 m. (3,150 ft.)

Climate: Summer : Max. 33°—35° C. Min. 20°—26.5° C.

Winter : Max. 25°—28° C. Min. 14°—20° C.

Rainfall : Average 86 cm. or 34 in. (June to October).

Season: October to April.

Type of clothing required: Cotton in summer and woollens in December and January.

Languages: Kannada, Tamil, Telugu, Hindi and English.

BANGALORE

Communications and Transport :

(a) Distances:

	<i>By Air</i>	<i>By Rail</i>	<i>By Road</i>
Bombay	855 km. (531 miles)	1,117 km. or 694 miles (via Guntakal) 1,199 km. or 745 miles (via Hubli)	1,099 km. (683 miles)
Madras	275 km. (171 miles)	357 km. (222 miles)	334 km. (207 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles)

(b) Internal Transport: Taxis and city buses available besides auto-rickshaws. Taxi rates are 0.50 P. per mile and Rs. 1.50 detention charges per hour. Auto-rickshaws 0.25 P. per mile.

Accommodation :

	Single	Double
(i) Western-style:	Rs.	Rs.
1. West End Hotel	30.00 to 35.00	58.50 to 65.00
2. Shilton Hotel	18.00 to 22.50	36.00 to 45.00
3. Lobo's Hotel	18.00 to 22.00	36.00 to 44.00
4. Hotel Embassy	18.00	30.00
5. Grand Hotel	22.00	44.00
6. Hotel Tourist	4.00 to 8.00	8.00 to 12.00

(ii) Indian-style :

- | | | |
|---------------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1. Madras Woodlands | 11.00 to 16.00 | 22.00 to 40.00 |
| 2. Hotel Broadway | 12.00 | 22.00 to 26.00 |

Besides these, there are several other hotels in the city.

(iii) Other Accommodation:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| 1. Mysore Government Guest House: | Reservation—Under Secretary, General Administration Deptt; (General), Government of Mysore, Vidhan Soudha, Bangalore. |
| 2. Railway Retiring Rooms: | Station Master, Bangalore. |
| 3. Y.M.C.A. and Y.W.C.A. | c/o Secretary. |

(iv) Miscellaneous:

(a) *Prohibition* : Not in force in Bangalore.

(b) *Information Centres* :

1. Government of India Tourist Office,
2, Mahatma Gandhi Road, Bangalore, Phone 4505.
2. Director of Tourism, Government of Mysore,
Bangalore, Phone 71377.

(c) *Guide Services* : Available from the Government of India Tourist Office and also from the Director of Tourism, Mysore Government.

(d) *Excursions* : Hessarghatta Lake, Chamarajasagar, Sivaganga, Nandi Hills, Mekedhat.

(e) *Conducted Tours* : There are many one-day and two-day trips organized by local private transport companies to places like Mysore, Krishnaraja Sagar, Srirangapatna, Belur and Halebid and Jog Falls. However, they are not recognized.

MYSORE

Communications and Transport :

(a) Distances:

	<i>By Air</i>	<i>By Rail</i>	<i>By Road</i>
Bangalore	...	138 km. (86 miles)	140 km. (87 miles)
Ootacamund	159 km. (99 miles)
Mangalore	254 km. (158 miles)
Hassan	...	119 km. (74 miles)	121 km. (75 miles)
Mercara	116 km. (72.6 miles)

(b) Internal Transport : Taxis and city buses available. Taxi rates are 0.50 P. per mile and Rs. 1.50 detention charges per hour.

Accommodation :

	<i>Single</i>	<i>Double</i>
(i) Western-style:	Rs.	Rs.
1. Hotel Metropole	33.00	55.00
2. Hotel Ritz	12.00 to 15.00	24.00 to 30.00
3. Hotel Krishnarajasagar	33.00	55.00
(ii) Indian-style:		
1. Indra Bhavan	7.00	14.00
2. Gayathri Bhavan	6.00	13.00
3. Dasa Prakash	5.00 to 8.00	6.00 to 16.00
4. Modern Hindu Hotel	7.00 to 10.00	14.00 to 20.00

(iii) Other accommodation:

- (1) Govt. Guest House, Ridge House and Chamundi House. For reservation, contact the Superintendent of Government Guest Houses, Government House, Mysore.
- (2) Railway Retiring Rooms: Station Master, Mysore.
- (3) Y.M.C.A., c/o Secretary, Mysore.

Miscellaneous :

(a) *Prohibition* : In force.

(b) *Information Centre* : Information-cum-Tourist Centre, Government of Mysore, Seshadri House, Mysore.

(c) *Guide Services* : Government of India guide available at the Tourist Bureau, J. M. Palace Road, Mysore, and State Govt. guides at the Information-cum-Tourist Centre.

(d) *Excursions* : Srirangapatna, Krishnaraja Sagar, Somnathpur, Sivasamudram, Bandipur.

BELUR AND HALEBID

Communications and Transport:

(a) *Distances*: The airport nearest to Belur and Halebid is at Bangalore. The rail-heads are Hassan, Banavar and Arsikere. There are regular bus connections from Hassan to Belur and Halebid and also from Banavar and Arsikere to Halebid and Belur. However, the most convenient plan is to stay in the Rest House at Hassan and visit Belur and Halebid in one day and Sravana Belgola the next day. There are regular bus services from both Bangalore and Mysore to Sravana Belgola, Belur and Halebid.

<i>By Road</i>	<i>Belur</i>	<i>Halebid</i>	<i>Sravana Belgola</i>
From Bangalore	222 km. (138 miles) via Hassan and Chennarayapatna	238 km. (148 miles)	166 km. (103 miles)
From Mysore	156 km. (97 miles)	172 km. (107 miles)	89 km. (55 miles)
From Hassan	35 km. (22 miles)	51 km. (32 miles)	32 km. (20 miles)
From Sravana Belgola	68 km. (42 miles)	84 km. (52 miles)	...
From Belur	...	16 km. (10 miles)	68 km. (42 miles)

(b) *Internal Transport* : There are no taxis available in these three places, except some private, old-model cars. The only mode of conveyance is the bus.

Accommodation:

	Belur	Halebid	Sravana Belgola
Hotels:	Nil	Nil	Nil
Rest Houses:	Class II Travel- lers' Bungalow. For reservation apply to Asstt. Engineer, P.W.D. 3 Sub- Division, Belur, Hassan Dist- rict.	Class II Travel- lers' Bungalow. For reservation apply to Asstt. Engineer, P. W. D. Hale- bid, Hassan District.	Class III Travel- lers' Bungalow. For reservation apply to the District Board, Channara- yapa t n a.

Hassan : Government of India Tourist Bungalow, Hassan. Charges: Full Board Rs. 24.00. Single, Rs. 43.00 double. Apply to the Manager, Govt. of India Tourist Bungalow, Hassan.

Next to the Government of India Tourist Bungalow, the Class I Travellers' Bungalow at Hassan is the most convenient place to stay as it is well furnished and the services of a Khansama (cook) are available. For reservation, apply to the Executive Engineer, Hassan, at least a week in advance.

Miscellaneous:

(a) *Prohibition:* Is in force.

(b) *Information Centre:* Tourist Information Centre, Govt. of Mysore, Hassan.

(c) *Guide Service:* Govt. of India guide available at the temple at Belur.

HAMPI

General Information:

- (a) Area: About 1 sq. km. ($\frac{1}{2}$ sq. mile).
- (b) Population: About 300.
- (c) Altitude: 500 m. (1,640 ft.) above sea level.
- (d) Climate: Average rainfall is about 104 cm. (41 inches) annually.
- (e) Type of clothing required: Tropical clothing throughout the year. Linen and cotton are most suitable.
- (f) Languages: Kannada, Tamil, Telugu.

Communications and Transport:

(a) Distances:

By air: No air connections.

By rail: The nearest railway station for Hampi is Hospet, which is at a distance of about 11 km. (7 miles).

	<i>By Rail</i>	<i>By Road</i>
Bangalore	358 km. (247 miles) via Guntakal	341 km. (212 miles)
Madras	558 km. (347 miles) via Guntakal	586 km. (364 miles) via Anantapur, Bellary
Bellary	105 km. (65 miles)	71 km. (44 miles)

(b) Internal Transport : Buses are available from Hospet, Tungabhadra Dam and Kamalapuram to Hampi.

Accommodation:

Rest Houses:

At Kamalapuram: Pravasi Mandir (near the ruins), 76 km. (47 miles) from Hospet. For reservation, write to the Assistant Engineer, P.W.D., Hospet.

At Hospet : Dak Bungalow. (11.3 km. or 7 miles from Hampi). For reservation, apply to the Assistant Engineer, P.W.D. Hospet.

Tungabhadra Dam Site : Circuit House "Vaikunt" (Best accommodation in the area). For reservation, apply to the Executive Engineer, Civil Division, Tungabhadra Dam Site, via Hospet.

At Munirabad: (2.4 km. or 1½ miles from the Dam Site).

(i) Indra Bhavan—Circuit House

(ii) Lake View—Circuit House. For reservation, apply to the Executive Engineer, Reservoir Construction Division, Munirabad.

Miscellaneous:

(a) *Prohibition :* Tungabhadra Project, Hospet Side, Hampi, Hospet: Dry area.

(b) *Information Centre:* (1) The Enquiries Deptt. of the Tungabhadra Board. (2) Department of Archaeology, Vijayanagaram Range, Kamalapuram.

(c) *Guide Services :* Nil.

BIJAPUR—BADAMI—AIHOLE—PATTADAKAL

General Information:

	<i>Area</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Altitude</i>
Bijapur	14 sq. km. (5.60 sq. miles)	72,356	593 m. (1,944 ft.)

	<i>Area</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Altitude</i>
Badami	4 sq. km. (1.57 sq. miles)	8,000	...
Aihole	2.8 sq. km. (1.1 sq. miles)	2,000	...
Pattadakal	...	...	...

Climate : Summer: Max. 38° C. Min. 23.6° C.
 Winter: Max. 29° C. Min. 15° C.
 Rainfall: Average about 50 cm. annually.

Type of clothing required: Cottons suitable throughout the year.
 During the winter months, light woollens can be worn.

Languages : Kannada is the main language spoken.

Communications and Transport:

(a) Distances:

By Air: Not connected.

By Rail: Bijapur and Badami are railway stations on the Sholapur-Gadag line of the Southern Railway.

By Road:

	<i>Bijapur</i>		<i>Badami</i>		<i>Aihole</i>		<i>Pattadakal</i>	
	km.	miles	km.	miles	km.	miles	km.	miles
Bangalore	616	383	531	330	581	361	560	348
Bijapur	...	...	163	101	132	82	192	119
Badami	163	101	...	...	50	31	29	18
Aihole	132	82	50	31	...	...	79	49
Pattadakal	192	119	29	18	79	49	...	...

(b) Internal Transport : Regular buses ply between Bijapur, Bagalkot and Badami. Taxis without meters are available in Bijapur and Bagalkot. Charges range from Re. 0.75 to Re. 1.00 per mile.

Accommodation:

At Bijapur :

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| (i) Circuit House | } For reservation, apply to the Executive Engineer, P.W.D., Bijapur Division, Bijapur. |
| (ii) P.W.D. Inspection Bungalow | |
| (iii) Travellers' Bungalow | |
| (iv) Tourist Bungalow | |

At Badami :

- | | |
|---------------------------|--|
| (i) Inspection Bungalow | } For reservation, apply to the Executive Engineer, P.W.D., Bagalkot Division, Bagalkot. |
| (ii) Travellers' Bungalow | |

(iii) Tourist Bungalow

} For reservation, apply to
the Assistant Engineer,
P.W.D. 2 Sub Division,
Badami.

At Bagalkot :

- (i) Inspection Bungalow
(ii) Travellers' Bungalow

} For reservation same as
in Badami.

Miscellaneous :

- (a) *Prohibition* : In force.
(b) *Information Centres*: At Bijapur, Mysore Government
Tourist Bureau, Room No. 9, Tourist Bungalow,
Class II, Arkilla Road, Bijapur.
(c) *Guide Service* : Nil.

TRIVANDRUM

General Information:

- (a) Area: 52 sq. km. (20 sq. miles)
(b) Population: 3.5 lakhs.
(c) Altitude: Sea level.
(d) Climate: Average temperature: Max. 35° C. Min. 21° C.
Rainfall: 64 cm.
Season: November to February.
(e) Type of clothing required: Light tropical and cotton clothing
throughout the year.
(f) Languages: Malayalam and English.

Communications and Transport:

External:

Air Connections: Trivandrum is connected by IAC air services
with Madras via Bangalore and Cochin.

Rail Connections : Direct rail-route links Trivandrum with
Madras (824 km. or 512 miles).

For Quilon

Air Connections: Nil. The nearest airport is at Trivandrum.

Rail Connections : Quilon is on the direct rail route from
Madras to Trivandrum.

For Periyar Wild Life Sanctuary:

Air Connections : Nil. The nearest airport is Madurai
(145 km. or 90 miles) by road.

Rail Connections : Nil. The nearest railway station is
Kottayam on the Trivandrum-Quilon-Cochin rail-route.

For Cochin

Air Connections : Cochin is connected by regular air
services with Madras, Bangalore and Trivandrum.

Rail Connections : Cochin (Ernakulam) is connected by
rail with Trivandrum.

Internal : Taxis and buses available. Taxi rates are 50 P. per mile and Rs. 2 detention charges per hour.

Accommodation:

(i) Western-style Hotel : Mascot Hotel. Charges for a single room are Rs. 21.00 to Rs. 27.00 and for a double Rs. 40.00 to Rs. 60.00, inclusive of board and lodging.

Hotel Magnet Rs. 20.00 (single) and Rs. 35.00 to Rs. 45.00 (double).

(ii) Rest House : For reservation, apply to the District Collector, Trivandrum.

(iii) Legislators' Hostel: Reservation—Officer-in-Charge, Legislators' Hostel, Trivandrum.

Miscellaneous:

(a) *Prohibition* : In force.

(b) *Information Centres*:
 1. Department of Public Relations.
 2. Director, Tourist Department.
 3. Tourist Information Office, Hotel Mascot.

(c) *Guide Service* : Available at Mascot Hotel.

(d) *Excursion* : Kanya Kumari (Cape Comorin) 87 km. or 54 miles by road.

(e) *Kovalam Beach* : Accommodation: Government of Kerala Bath House. Single Rs. 17.50, Double Rs. 31.00. Reservation—Manager, Kerala Bath House, Kovalam (Trivandrum District).

QUILON

General Information:

(a) Area: 16 sq. km. (6.25 sq. miles)

(b) Population: 70,000

(c) Altitude: Sea level.

(d) Climate: Average temperature: Max. 35° C. Min. 24° C.
 Rainfall: 279 cm.

(e) Type of clothing required : Light tropical and cotton clothing throughout the year.

(f) Languages : Malayalam and English.

Communications and Transport:

(a) Distances :

	<i>By Air</i>	<i>By Rail</i>	<i>By Road</i>
Cochin	...	164 km.	148 km.
Trivandrum	...	65 km.	71 km.
Madras	...	759 km.	789 km.

- (b) Internal Transport : Taxi rates are 62 P. per mile and Rs. 2 detention charges per hour. Rickshaws — 25 P. per mile. Boats (40 to 60 seater) may be hired for going around the Ashtamudi Lake; charges are Rs. 40 per hour.

Accommodation:

- (i) Tourist Bungalow : For reservation, apply to the Manager, Tourist Bungalow, Quilon, Tel. 2219. Rs. 17.50 single room, Rs. 31.00 double room.
Rest House and Additional Rest House : For reservation, apply to Executive Engineer, P.W.D., Quilon.
- (iii) Western-style Hotel : Hotel Neela : Charges — Single room Rs. 18 and Rs. 35.00 to Rs. 40.00 (AC) ; Double room: Rs. 30.00 and Rs. 50.00 to Rs. 60.00 (AC).
- (iv) Indian-style Hotel: Anand Bhavan Hotel, Sea View, Premier Hotel.

Miscellaneous:

Prohibition: Not in force.

PERIYAR WILD LIFE SANCTUARY

General Information:

- (a) Area : 777 sq. km. (300 sq. miles)
(b) Altitude : 1,006 m. (3,300 ft.)
(c) Climate : Average temperature : Max. 29.5° C.
Min. 15.5° C.
Average rainfall : 203 cm.
- (d) Type of clothing required: Light woollen clothing in winter and cotton clothing in summer.

Communications and Transport:

Internal Transport : Taxis are available at Cochin, Trivandrum, Madurai and Kumili for a trip to the Sanctuary.

Accommodation:

- (i) Western-style Hotel : Hotel Aranya Nivas, Thekkady. Charges are Rs. 30.00 for single room and Rs. 55.00 for a double room. These rates are inclusive of board and lodging.
- (ii) Govt. Guest House, Edapalayam : For reservation, apply to the Manager, Hotel Aranya Nivas, Thekkady, Charges are: single Rs. 40.00; double Rs. 55.00.
- (iii) Class II Tourist Bungalow: single room Rs. 2.00
double room Rs. 4.00

For reservation, apply to the Manager, Hotel Aranya Nivas, Thekkady

Miscellaneous:

- (a) *Prohibition* : Not in force.
(b) *Guide* : The Game Ranger can provide one of the game lawn guards to act as a guide.

- (c) *Fishing* : The Manager, Hotel Aranya Nivas, issues temporary permits to hotel residents for fishing in the Periyar Lake.
- (d) *Boating* : One launch is available with Hotel Aranya Nivas, and one with Edapalayam Guest House.
- The Game Department has a boat.

COCHIN, INCLUDING ERNAKULAM, WILLINGDON ISLAND MATTANCHERI AND FORT COCHIN

General Information:

- (a) Area: 18.29 sq. km. (7.06 sq. miles).
 (b) Population: 241,495
 (c) Altitude: Sea level.
 (d) Climate: Average temperature: Max. 35° C. Min. 20° C.
 Rainfall: 254 cm.
 (e) Type of clothing required: Light tropical and cotton clothing will do throughout the year.
 (f) Languages: Malayalam and English.

Communications and Transport:

Internal Transport: Taxis and boats are available. Taxi rates are 50 P. per mile and detention charges Rs. 2 per hour.

Accommodation:

1. Tourist Bungalow, Bolghatty Island. Apply for reservation to Steward, Bolghatty Tourist Bungalow, Ernakulam, or the Superintendent, Guest House, Ernakulam.
 Rates—Single: Rs. 21.50; Double: Rs. 36.00.

2. Rest House: For reservation, write to the Dy. Collector, Ernakulam District, Ernakulam.

Western-style Hotels: Malabar Hotel. Charges for a single room are Rs. 27.00 and for a double room Rs. 50.00, inclusive of board and lodging.

	Single	Double
International Tourist Hotel, Ernakulam	Rs. 15.00 to Rs. 30.00	Rs. 30.00 to Rs. 45.00
Grand Hotel, Ernakulam	Rs. 27.00 to Rs. 35.00	Rs. 45.00 to Rs. 50.00
	Rs. 38.00 (AC)	Rs. 60.00 (AC)
May Fair Hotel, Ernakulam	Rs. 18.00	Rs. 35.00 to 45.00
Sea Lord Hotel, Ernakulam	Rs. 35.00 to Rs. 55.00 (AC)	Rs. 80.00 to Rs. 90.00 (AC)

Indian-style Hotels : Sea Green Hotel, Terminus Hotel, Breeze Hotel, New Woodland Hotel, Bharat Tourist Home.

Rest House : For reservation, apply to the Deputy Collector, Ernakulam.

Miscellaneous:

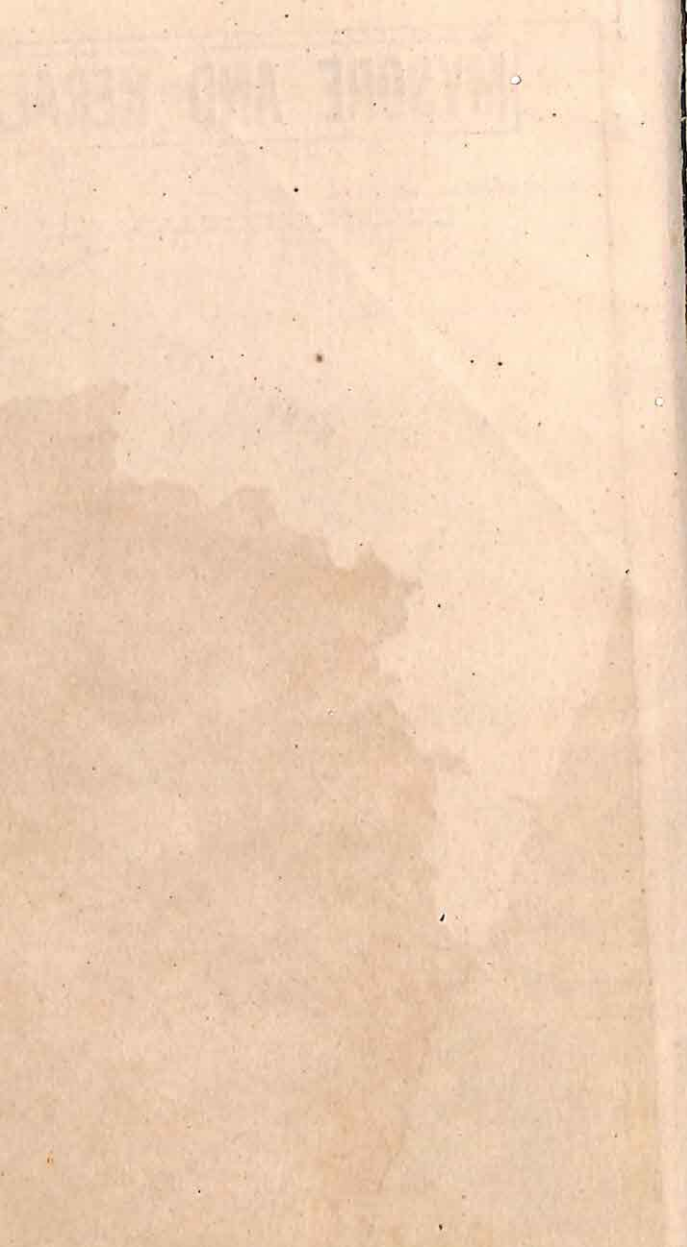
- (a) *Prohibition* : Not in force except at Cochin port.
- (b) *Information Centre* : Government of India Tourist Office, Willingdon Island, Cochin.
- (c) *Guide Service* : Guides are available from the Government of India Tourist Office, Cochin.

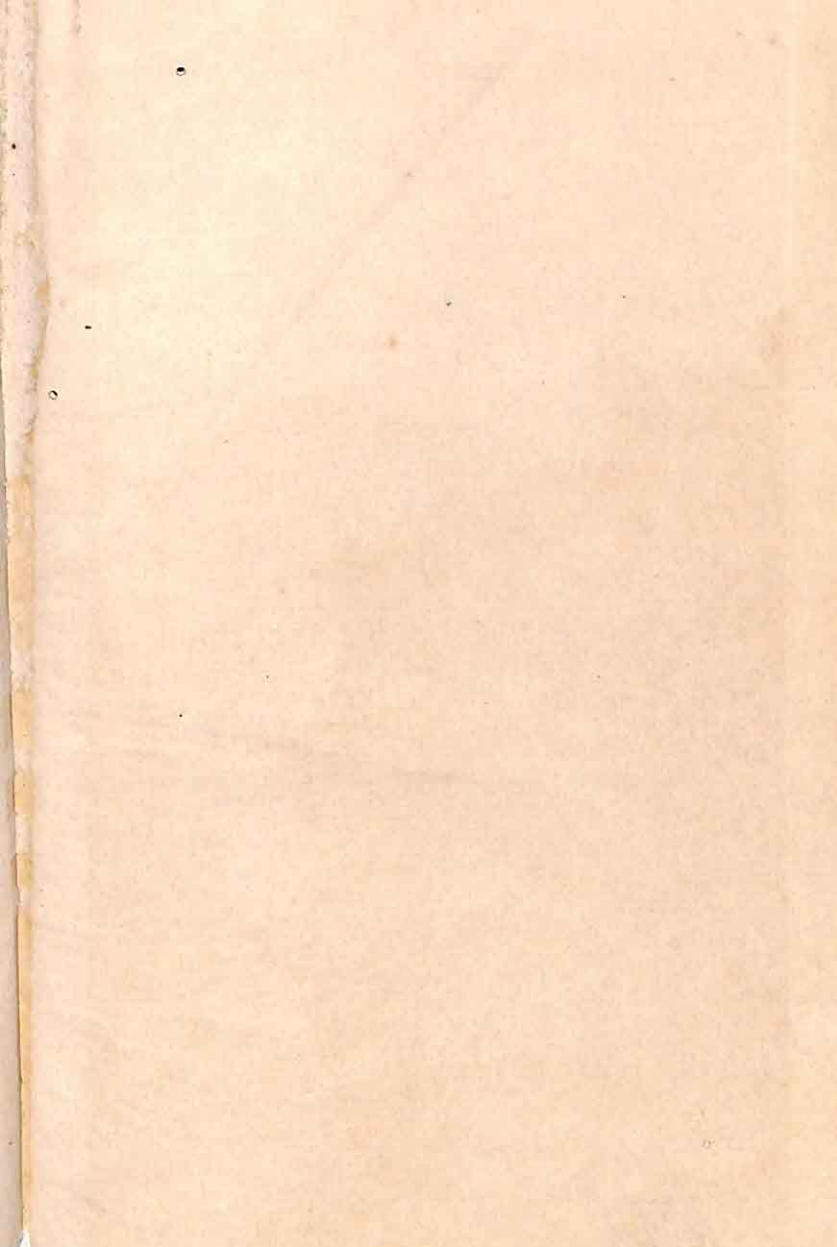
For all tourist information, please contact:

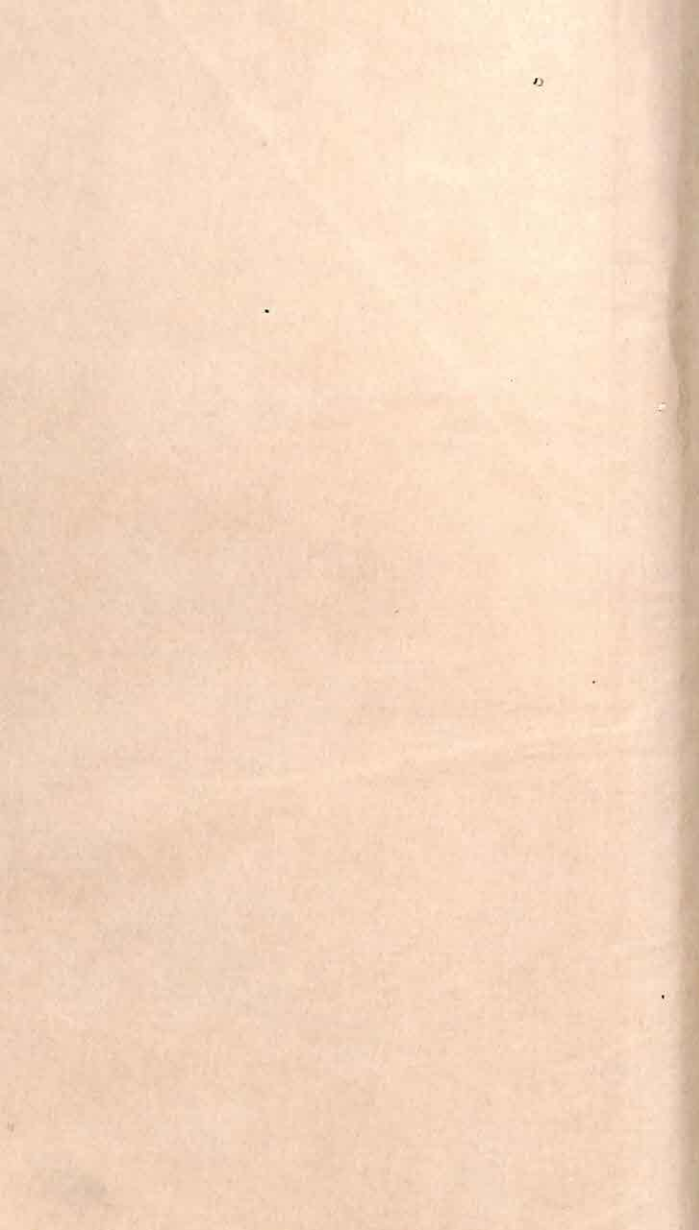
Overseas	Telephone
1. Government of India Tourist Office, 19, East 49th Street, New York 17 (N.Y.), U.S.A. ... MUrray Hill	8-2245
2. Government of India Tourist Office, 685, Market Street, San Francisco 5 (Calif.), U.S.A. ... EXbrook	7-0066
3. Government of India Tourist Office 177-179 King Street at University, Toronto-1, Canada ... EMpire	2-3188
4. Government of India Tourist Office, 28, Cockspur Street, London, S.W.1., U.K. TRAfalgar	1717-8-9
5. Office National Indien de Tourisme, 8, Boulevard de la Madeleine, Paris (9), France ... OPEra ... ANJou	00-84 83-86
6. Indisches Verkehrsburo, Baseler Hochhaus, Baseler Strasse 46, First Floor, Frankfurt/Main, West Germany ...	332380 and 332396
7. Government of India Tourist Office, Carlton Centre, 55 Elizabeth Street, Sydney N.S.W., Australia ...	281604 231605
8. Government of India Tourist Office, No. 1, Ginza, 7 Chome, Chuo-ku, Tokyo, Japan	571-5062/3
9. Government of India Tourist Office, Palmer House, Room Nos. 684-685 Chicago, 90 (Ill.) U.S.A.	236-6899
In India	
1. Government of India Tourist Office, 123, Queen's Road, Churchgate, Bombay	242144 and 242145

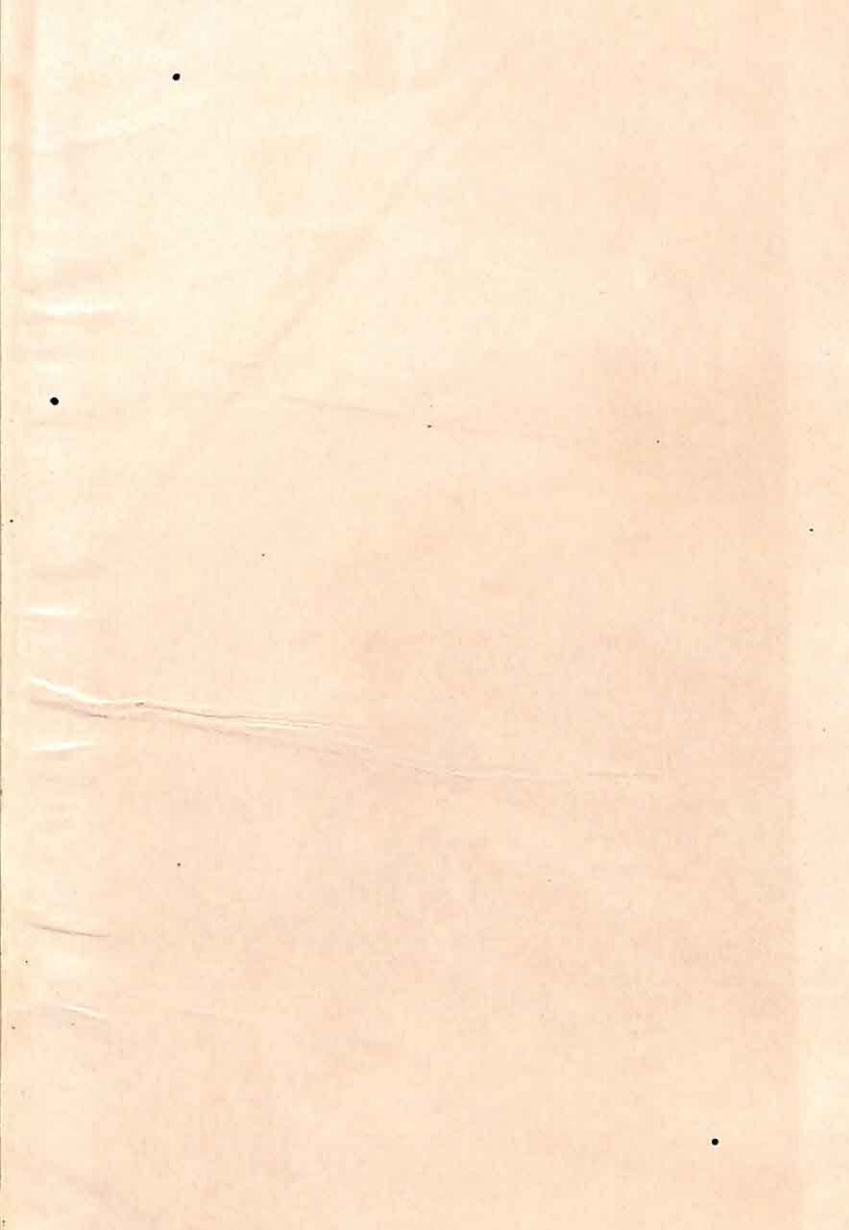
2.	Government of India Tourist Office, 13, Old Court House Street, Calcutta.	Telephone 23-5721 and 23-2819
3.	Government of India Tourist Office, 88, Janpath, New Delhi.	47057-8-9
4.	Government of India Tourist Office, 35, Mount Road, Madras.	86999
5.	Government of India Tourist Office, 191, The Mall, Agra.	2377
6.	Government of India Tourist Office, Krishna Vilas, Station Road, Aurangabad.	17
7.	Government of India Tourist Office, 15-B, The Mall, Varanasi (Banaras) Cantt.	4189
8.	Government of India Tourist Office, Willingdon Island, Cochin.	6045
9.	Government of India Tourist Office, Rajasthan State Hotel, Jaipur.	2200











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